

*Miss Teen Aruba International 2008*

## Leonella de Palm represents Aruba at the Miss Teenager Universe 2009

*In El Salvador*


ORANJESTAD – Ms. Leonella de Palm, Miss Teen Aruba International 2008, is in full preparation to compete in the Miss Teenager Universe 2009 Election which will take place October 17<sup>th</sup> 2009 in San Salvador.

Leonella will compete with representatives of 20 countries for the title which is in the hands of Lorinei Cornejo from PERU.

GLW Foundation is proud to announce that Leonella will leave to San Salvador in October, while Jeanique de Palm will represent Aruba at the Miss Teen Playa Mundial.

Congratulations to GLW Foundation and to ms. Leonella we wish her the best of luck. ☐





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**US\$ 72.47**

↓ 0.03

## St Kitts and Nevis signs more tax info sharing agreements



BASSETTERRE, St Kitts - St Kitts and Nevis has signed two more tax information exchange

(TIEAs) as it inches towards the standards expected by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The deals signed with the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba brings to four the number of TIEAs which the twin-island federation has entered.

The first two were Denmark and the Netherlands as the OECD Global Forum on Taxation was held in Mexico City earlier this month.

The signing ceremony took place in The Hague, the Dutch

capital, where St. Kitts and Nevis High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, His Excellency Dr. James Williams, signed the treaties on behalf of the Federation with representatives from the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.

Chief Executive Officer of the St Kitts Investment Promotion Agency (SKIPA), Shawna Lake, said the country has already negotiated the text for additional TIEAs, but is awaiting indication from the relevant countries about the dates for the actual signing of

these agreements.

During a recent press conference, Prime Minister Dr Denzil Douglas told reporters his government would soon sign TIEAs with several countries including Finland,

Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

Additional agreements are also being sought with New Zealand, Australia, and Canada as the government seeks to move from the OECD's 'grey list' to the 'white list.' ☐



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*Employees celebrate at Texas de Brazil*

# Wendy's celebrates 20 years of fast-food on Aruba



**PALM BEACH** – This week, 90 employees of Wendy's celebrated 20 years on Aruba during their annual employee dinner at Texas de Brazil in Palm Beach. The group enjoyed a never ending array of meats after enjoying the best salad bar on the island complete with salad, sushi and soups.

Wendy's was recently voted the best fast-food chain in the U.S, according to a survey done among 5,500 Americans. Wendy's is applauded for its extensive fast-food menu to health conscious children and adults.

Management and employees of Wendy's Aruba are proud to achieve and announce the great achievement. Wendy's has three restaurants in Aruba, situated in Palm Beach (Palm Beach Plaza), Oranjestad (Lloyd G. Smith Boulevard) and San Nicolas (Cura Cabay). □





United Artists of Aruba Foundation choice awards

# WALLY WARNING chosen as "Artist of September"



ORANJESTAD – On the 15th of every month, United Artists of Aruba Foundation (UAAF) chooses its artist of the month out of the community of artists that unite to support and help others to express the creative soul of our country. September 2009 is the month of Wally Warning, who is succeeding around the world as composer, multi-instrumentalist, guitarist, bassist, percussionist, singer and composer of 14 CDs and one DVD.

From the tropical island of Aruba to popular performances all over Europe, onto the icy grounds of Russia, all the way to the human warmth of Alabama, through poverty stricken areas of Ethiopia, Wally Warning conquers the whole world by abundantly catering musical tenderness to our entire planet.

At age 17 he left his birth-island armed with a perpetual love for music, his inborn charm, a naturally cheerful disposition and innate sense of humor that took him over many hurdles faced in his dedication to reap success through living a creatively expressive life. In doing just that Wally touches many on this path. While making music had been something he had to fight and stand up for, Wally has become a sparkling multi-instrumentalist, highly cherished for his moralizing and uplifting lyrics drawn straight from a winged heart

filled with the profound wish to see a better world manifest. Once this talented singer, guitarist, bassist, percussionist and composer performs on stage, whether solo or with his band, you are instantly magnetized by his irresistible enthusiasm that makes every single one of his presentations a unifying soul experience. After some years in Netherlands he settled down in Munich from where he skillfully surpasses all possible frontiers and boundaries in every musical sense, category and wide ranging multilingual aspects. While the newspaper "Südkurier" referred to his art as: "A better world music!" Wally's very own style is distinguished by its truly authentic and sincere nature; a multicultural crossover that catches the heart and ear. "Love can save us" is his message; his love for Jesus Christ changed his life and strongly influences his music. In 2007 Wally joined the organization <http://www.menschenfuermenschen.de/default.aspx?SeitenID=347&ID=331> Menschen für Menschen which runs integrated rural development projects in nine Ethiopian regions. He warmheartedly sang his song Hand in Hand to assist in poverty relief and has become a joyful border-crossing missionary whom as quoted by the "Süddeutsche Zeitung": "prefers to compose soft verses about love, faith and hope rather



than to exploit commercial trends." In Wally's own words: "In a time of electronic over-saturation, I like to place special emphasis on original musical craft; this eases a song into what is essential and slows us down to a place where less is actually more." Up to 2008 Wally has produced a total of 14 cd's of which the "No Monkey can stop my show" song and animation was a tremendous hit in Germany. No Monkey says it all about Wally, no matter whom or what, he will tirelessly continue composing, playing and performing to everyone's heart's delight! Commercial Value: Wally's heart and dedication go way beyond price; he is always ready to give all he can. Entities interested can contact Wally for Custom Tailored Performances that will be a true bonding session for any audience. Wally is also truly talented in writing very touching and funny lyrics for jingles and he adds the most unique instruments and tones that will make every musical piece he creates stand out like no other. If you're interested in contacting Wally Warning visit [www.unitedartistsaruba.com](http://www.unitedartistsaruba.com) □

*Special Month of September!*

<b>Appetizer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fish Soup</li> <li>• Onion Soup</li> <li>• Conch Fritters</li> <li>• Escargot</li> <li>• Salad</li> </ul>
<b>Entrée</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fresh Catch of the Day</b> prepared by our local chef just the way you like it.</li> <li>• <b>Jumbo Shrimp</b> from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine.</li> <li>• <b>Filet Mignon</b> 8 oz. US Tenderloin</li> <li>• <b>Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast</b></li> </ul>
<b>Dessert</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chocolate or Banana Cake</li> <li>• Ice Cream</li> <li>• Coffee / Tea</li> </ul>

\* This special cannot be used with any other promotions, vouchers or certificates.

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# A&R Production hosts Beach Clean Up for Aruba's Beauty Pageant candidates



ORANJESTAD – A&R Production is preparing for the upcoming Beauty Pageant of Aruba event .

Recently A&R Production organized a beach clean up event for the candidates, where participants received an explanation from Mr. Michael Paesch. He explained the results of what causes our beaches gets so dirty and how much time it takes for it to disappear out of our environment.

It was a very interesting morning for the children, because they learned a lot on why and how to keep our beaches clean. □

## Keep our island clean



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Thursday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed  
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Sunday \$10 buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed  
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Kiwanis Key Club Colegio Arubano and Kiwanis Club of Aruba

# Vote for "Role Model of the Youth 2009"



ORANJESTAD – The Kiwanis Key Club Colegio Arubano and Kiwanis Club of Aruba are busy with a new project.

It is well known that our youth admires and follows the steps of international Role Models and don't recognize the people that are helping our community as Role Models. One of the goals of this project is to create public awareness towards people who have done a lot for the youth and



the community.

And at the same time they will show the youth healthy activities that they can do in their spare time.

Another goal of this event is

to honor these people and give them an award for their efforts.

Using Setar's SMS system, the Aruban community will be able to choose the Role Model of the Youth 2009.

Kiwanis Key Club Colegio Arubano and Kiwanis Club of Aruba invite the youth to look around to find and vote for their Role Model of The Youth 2009. □



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**Tuesday** Bravo Italiano

**Wednesday** An island favorite - BBQ night

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**Friday** International Seafood Festival

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*The Sansone and Fernandez couples honored*

# Aruba recognizes Ambassadors of Goodwill

EAGLE – Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority named couples Fernando & Luz Maria Sansone and Gustavo & Roselvi Fernandez of Venezuela as Goodwill Ambassadors. Both couples have been visiting the Island of Aruba for over 20 years consecutively and say “Aruba is the perfect place to relax, the beaches are beautiful the people are always nice and the weather is phenomenal.”

The Sansones have been coming to Aruba for exactly 28 years and have been members of the Aruba Beach Club since 1973. The Fernandez’ are also members of the same resort since 1973. Both couples had to say that that Aruba “is the best place to enjoy a happy vacation” and would recommend it anytime of the day to another of there friends. Present at the occasion was Izaira Pirell of the Aruba Beach Club and Amayra Boekhoudt of the Aruba Tourism Authority, who bestowed both couples their certificates. □



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Monday - Saturday 5:30-10 pm



Ahoy Matey bring this ad in for a free glass of house wine





# Aruba bids Jorge Zarraga goodbye



NOORD – Earlier this week, friends of marketing extraordinaire Jorge Zarraga said goodbye with a farewell party.

Lots of food and libations were to be had as the

group enjoyed their last night together in a festive atmosphere poolside at Jorge's residence in Palm Beach Aruba.

After many years on Aruba, Jorge has decided to visit

his family in Venezuela for a while, then continue on with his career in Holland. We wish you well Jorge, come back soon! ☐

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~



## MENU ITEMS

Burgers, Pizzas, Salads  
Sandwiches, Wraps  
Wings & Calamari

## HAPPY HOUR

Every day from:  
5 - 6 pm

## OPENING HOURS

Daily 9 am - 12 am

## WEBSITE

WWW.BUGALOE.COM

## THE COOLEST PLACE TO BE IS BUGALOE! Fun and happiness at popular beach bar

**PALM BEACH -** There is only one Bugaloe on Aruba: it is the hottest place to be cool and the coolest place to be hot.

Friends and fun are the main ingredients at the beach bar, but great food, drinks and music get a good second place. The sunsets, the breeze and the turquoise ocean are right at the top as well, of course.

People from all over the world get together at Bugaloe: they have a few drinks, a bite to eat, they dance and sway and make new friends. If you have gotten curious here and now, check out the website [www.bugaloe.com](http://www.bugaloe.com) and you will see at one glance what we are talking about. No words will be needed anymore. Surf to the website for the Bugaloe Event Calendar or leave a note in the Guestbook.



**Bugaloe is located at De Palm Pier in Palm Beach between RIU Palace and Radisson Resort.**

Bugaloe's daily Happy Hours are considered the starting signal for an evening of partying on the island. Locals mingle with visitors and raise their glasses. When you get hungry, order a scrumptious burger, a gourmet pizza, tasty wings or a salad and party on.



The night is young, the world is going crazy and you are right in the middle of a super happening. What's not to like?

Bugaloe Beach Bar puts on live bands on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

Joyride, PM Band, DJ Jeroen and Marisela & Aquarius are playing the stars from the sky. These musical talents draw the crowds, so be there or be square!

For more information go to [www.bugaloe.com](http://www.bugaloe.com).

## LIVE MUSIC @ BUGALOE

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Friday 10pm - 12am - DJ Jeroen

Sunday 6-9pm: MARISELA & Aquarius

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# Read ARUBA TODAY every day



# Subway launches new campaign "Footlong Mania"



ORANJESTAD - Subway launched its new campaign and is dedicated to all footlong sandwich lovers. Subway launched yesterday the new campaign named "Footlong mania" that for only 15 Arabian florins you can choose out of 14 different footlong sandwiches at the sametime Subway introduced

one of it's newest members in the sandwich arena which is the Steak & bacon melt, which has the Philly steak as main ingredient combined with 4 strips of bacon, this sandwich was introduced especially for all the bacon lovers.

You can also get this in a combo that comes with a 20-

oz drink and a desert of your choice.

This "footlong mania" campaign is a short term campaign so hurry up and get your at any of the 8 Subways around the Island



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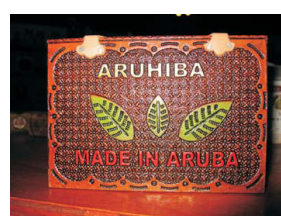
ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba.



Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba".



Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open on Sunday from 9am to 8pm. And also at Tamarijn Hotel open from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade.



**BUY & RECEIVE ONE ARUBAN CIGAR FREE WITH THIS FLYER**

## Bonaire referendum in next four months

BONAIRE--The Island Council of Bonaire passed a motion stating that a new referendum on the process of constitutional change will be held within four months; in any case before the Antillean Parliament elections of January 22, 2010. The motion was presented by the ADB faction led by Jopie Abraham and supported by its coalition partner, independent (former UPB) councilman Anthony Nicolaas. A referendum committee will now be installed that has to report by the end of month to the Executive Council on the question content and an exact date. It must also prepare an execution plan for an information campaign and see to it that the referendum meets requirements of the United Nations. The committee will have Lt. Governor Glenn Thode as chairman and include a faction member of ADB, one of opposition party UPB and one of the "Awor t'e Ora" (Now is the Time) movement that has been calling for a referendum for some time. A new chairman of the Central Committee was also chosen in ADB faction member Robbie Beukenboom, while UPB leader Ramonsito Booi became vice-chairman. □



*A treat from 'de Zeeuwse kust'*

## Two more weekends with mussels at fabulous Papillon Restaurant



*This Sunday: Got Sand... Play Beach Tennis!*

## Inter Assure Beach Tennis Ranking doubles as warming-up for November Tournament

EAGLE BEACH - With the Aruba International Beach Tennis Championships coming up in November, players of this exciting sport are using the opportunity to hone their skills this coming Sunday, September 20, when the Inter Assure Beach Tennis Ranking is taking place. The slogan 'Got Sand...Play Beach Tennis!' is attracting lots of attention and more and more local players are getting in the beach tennis fun mode.

Held at Eagle Beach, across from former Le Dôme Restaurant, the tournament starts at 10 am for junior players; at noon the adults get to play. The afternoon fun includes a DJ, a BBQ Grill, lots of ice cold drinks and the presence and participation of Dutch Fun champions Leon Bulten and Wynand van Beek, who will be pitching their skills against Aruba's top talents. Leon and Wynand were looking mighty scared



THE VILLAGE - Two more weekends to go for the excellent Dutch mussels at Papillon Restaurant. Flown in with the fresh, salty smell of one of Holland's best export products still clinging to them, they can grace your table on the two remaining Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in September. The tastiest, best mussels are cut in the south of Holland, at 'de Zeeuwse kust'; these are the ones that Papillon is serving.

Papillon's chef Bas prepares the mussels in the classic, traditional way with all the trimmings: boiled and steeped in French white wine with a garnish of fresh vegetables like finely cut onions, celery, parsley and black, freshly ground pepper and thyme. The traditional mussels are served with French bread and French fries. As Papillon is a French/Caribbean restaurant, the Caribbean touch comes from a mild, yet 'picante' papaya sauce.

Mussels are really healthy: they contain hardly any cholesterol at all, are rich in vitamins and in good fatty acids. The 'Zeeuwse Mosselen' are world famous: they are bursting with taste and flavors.

Reservations for an evening of the mussels from Zeeland are necessary, so please call in advance to book a table. Papillon Restaurant is located in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort. □

when we met them earlier this week!

The September Beach Tennis Ranking is held in various categories, from Beginners (Fun) and Advanced to Pro; it is sponsored by Inter Assure, Alno Kitchen, Amstel Bright, Aruba Aloe, ATA, Bacardi Mojito, Monster Energy and Zen Design. 'Every Body Can Play', is the Beach Tennis motto, so get off your chair and register for an afternoon of sports, sun

and laughter. Surf to [www.arubabeachtennis.com](http://www.arubabeachtennis.com) for more information about the upcoming November 13 - 15 tournament as well as on the ranking and registration. You can also call 592-6421 to register. □





De Palm Tours hosts

# A Product Training & Team Building Event



Palm Beach – De Palm Tours treated the members of its own sales team to an action-packed Product Training & Team Building event on MooMba Beach. The adventure took off with a Jeep Rally which toured



the reservation agents and concierges around the California Lighthouse and the Alto Vista church, where they got a delicious ‘Taste of Aruba’ driving the company’s Jeep Wranglers along winding country roads, wind in their hair.

Landing at MooMba Beach, the sales team was greeted by a trio of Fun Directors – Jochem, Sjoerd and Nick of the Aruba Beach Tennis organization who took them through four Beach Olympics events -- Sand Ski Race, Jeu de Coco, Obstacle Race & Tug of War -- divided into six highly-competitive groups.

Peggy Gómez-Navarrette, Sales Operation Supervisor, reports the day was designed to bring individuals together, also teaching collaboration while taking turns at leadership.

“If you all follow, you’ll never win,” advised Sjoerd in his instructions, “and if you all lead, your effort will lose its group focus,” he added, thus tipping his group regarding the need to discuss strategies! The day was attended by Astrid Winterdaal the department head and by Kristen & Carla, in charge of the high-rise and low-rise hotel desks respectively.

Mission accomplished, the sales team had a lot of fun in the sun, and our pictures prove it. □





# Local woman warns of identity theft, email hoax

PHILIPSBURG--Online identity theft happens everywhere, including here in St. Maarten.

A local woman's e-mail addresses were hacked recently and she hopes residents don't fall for scams from hackers.

Teacher Marcellia Henry last signed in to her Yahoo address on Monday. She said everything had seemed fine that morning, but later in the day, she was locked out. "I couldn't access any of my e-mails," Henry told The Daily Herald.

Hackers e-mailed all of Henry's contacts later that day with the same message: a plea for money to help her out of Nigeria. The subject line was simply "Reply soon"

and it was signed as Henry would, "Regards, Marcie." Henry is St. Maarten's representative for the Netherlands Antilles branch of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). Her contacts include officials and UNESCO reps around the world along with friends and family. "I don't know how it happens," Henry said. "I'm hoping it doesn't happen to anybody else."

She might have been a victim of phishing, an online scam where hackers spoof legitimate Websites to lure Web users to submit personal information. They then use that information to take control of the victims'

accounts and steal banking information or in this case, scam others out of money.

St. Maarten Internet service provider (ISP) Caribserve.net has warned customers in English and French at least three times since July about the possibility of hackers stealing their account information.

The e-mail said Henry was stranded in Nigeria after she "forgot [a] little bag in the taxi where my money, passport, documents and other valuable things were kept." The sender appeals for US \$2,300 to be sent through MoneyGram "to help sort out all of my problems here."

Henry said friends "were ready to send me money" after receiving the e-mail

while others had phoned African embassies and Dutch consulates to help her.

Web users are familiar with this scam. "I feel totally violated. My e-mail address has been hacked," one poster wrote on a Website called Topix.com. "I cannot access it and cannot change the password. My password no longer works and everyone in my address book received the very e-mail noted in the post by 'scammed.'"

The scammers say the person they are impersonating was attending a conference called "Empowering youth to fight racism, HIV/AIDS, and lack of education." One version says the gathering was in Africa, while another claims it was in Malaysia.

Hacking is a major problem worldwide. Yahoo warned customers in a 2008 blog post that hacking was always possible. Suspect the suspicious, the Web service said.

"At some point, there's a chance you may receive an e-mail that looks like it came from Yahoo!, taking you to something that looks like a Yahoo! Search Marketing login page, but something's ... not quite right," Yahoo.com warns.

It's hard to stop phishing. The first three months of 2008 saw 85,630 reported phishing attacks, according to Website on phishing stats.

"[Web users] cannot take something like this lightly," Henry warned. □

## Brooks says allegations against him unfortunate, being twisted

PHILIPSBURG--Managing Director of utility company GEBE William Brooks said allegations against him were unfortunate, not true and were being "twisted." Brooks made his comments on the Beverly Hyman Show Wednesday evening.

Brooks, who has been accused of gross negligence as Managing Director, failure to manage GEBE's maintenance schedule, and putting GEBE's loan and board members at financial risk, declined to go into details on what is being reported concerning his function.

None of the charges against him were discussed during the interview.

Brooks said his task as Managing Director is a challenging one, but he is committed to the goal of taking GEBE to the next level. Adding "but it is difficult when you can't steer some employees in that direction." He said managing GEBE was his dream job, but he had never expected his dream to be this challenging.

Brooks, who has persistently turned down requests for interviews from The Daily Herald, said some employees were also worried and wondering "if they will have their MD," and if he would be around.

Referring to the possibility of not being at GEBE, Brooks said he did not know what he would do if he were not at GEBE, "but after working here, I can work anywhere."

"Young people from St. Maarten are looking at how other young educated St. Maarteners are being treated. St. Maarteners shouldn't be treating each other like this," he said.

He also briefly explained the fuel tariffs in relation to fluctuating worldwide fuel prices, among other things. Brooks also had a radio interview with Valerie Van Putten earlier in the day. □




**Don't drink &  
DRIVE**

## Sumptuous Sundowner

Introducing a special early evening menu, served from 5:30pm till 7pm

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Cream of Assorted Vegetables  
or  
Caesar Salad  
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Fried Calamari with Marinara Sauce

**- Entrée -**

Surf and Turf - Garlic Shrimp (4)  
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Pan-fried Mahi-Mahi  
with Mango Salsa  
or  
Chicken Breast Picatta  
served over Fettuccini

**- Dessert -**

Carrot Cake with Carrot Jelly  
& Raspberry Sauce  
or  
Traditional Crème Brulée


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# Rosario: Immigrants are being ripped off

~ Warns that Brooks Tower accord not in force ~

**P H I L I P S B U R G - -** Comprehensive Business Association (CBA) President Elco Rosario said on Wednesday that many undocumented immigrants in St. Maarten apparently were paying huge sums of money to regulate their legal status under an accord that has not yet been introduced in St. Maarten. Rosario, said he had been informed by a number of Curaçao officials that the Brooks Tower Accord was not yet in place, and

explained that some, including attorneys, had been collecting monies from people under false pretences to regulate their status under the said accord. "Various persons who are pretending to be insiders [with regard to] the Brooks Tower Accord not only have been making statements and holding public meetings about how it had to be and would be applied in the future, but they were also going so far [as] saying things that were

in conflict with the Brooks Tower Accord and our constitutional laws. "Stories had also started circulating that the St. Maarten Lt. Governor (Franklyn Richards) had started giving residence permits based on the Brooks Tower Accord. Some talk about hundreds of these documents having been issued, some even mention it's in the thousands," Rosario said. "In St. Maarten, efforts to have

some clarity from the authorities remain completely fruitless, as no one was coming out with public announcements on this matter. Meanwhile, hundreds have been paying huge amounts to obtain work and permanent residence permits based on the promises made by lawyers, accountants, employment agents, politicians and even union members," Rosario said. He said he had met with new Justice Minister Magali Jacoba on

Tuesday for clarity on the accord that, when introduced, would give undocumented immigrants who met the criteria a chance to regulate their status. He said he also had had talks on Monday with civil servants in the various departments who are handling residence permits and immigration issues in Curaçao and had been informed by all parties that no decision had been taken on the introduction of the Brooks Tower Accord.

He said that after meeting with the minister, he could only conclude that no local authority had the right to grant any document based on the Brooks Tower Accord until the date established for it to take effect, and that any decision taken that contradicted this would be in contravention of the law.

"Everything and everyone had to wait on the Minister's announcement regarding the date it will take effect. And when that announcement would be made it would be uniformly for all [the] islands," Rosario said in a letter on Wednesday.

According to Rosario, there has been no ruling saying that persons are guaranteed an employment permit under the accord. He said too that statements made by anyone in contravention of the actual text of the accord were the sole responsibility of the individuals making those statements.

"The intention of the Brooks Tower Accord is not to grant permanent residence papers to any applicant who makes a request based on the Accord. Individuals paying monies based on promises made by others in contravention of the Brooks Tower Accord are doing this at their own risk," he cautioned.

He reported that Jacoba had promised to contact Lt. Governor Richards on these issues.

Rosario promised to elucidate in future correspondence why granting a permanent residence permit and "automatic granting" of an employment permit based on the Brooks Tower Accord – as he said some people had been publicly pretending were possible – were in violation of the country's constitutional and administrative laws.

He said the accord fell under the jurisdiction of the Justice Minister and would be applied on all the Netherlands Antilles islands in a uniform manner. □



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## WIFOL concerned about process for selecting new Dean for USM

PHILIPSBURG--Workers Institute for Organised Labour (WIFOL) says it is very concerned about "indiscretions" in the selection process for a new Dean of Academic Affairs for University of St. Martin (USM).

In a press release last night it accused the USM board of not seriously focusing on improving the institution's academics.

WIFOL President Theophilus Thompson said the USM board was playing games with the institution's future by not replacing former dean Ron Pribble in a timely fashion. Pribble reportedly quit after taking sick leave.

"The staff had been complaining about Mr. Pribble's disrespectful manner towards them and his lack of concern and direction for the institution. With him quitting, the staff have yet to be formally informed about the reasons for his departure. That says a lot," Thompson stated in the press release.

USM announced on August 6 the "internal posting" for counterparts to the Dean of Academic Affairs and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Five persons applied for the dean counterpart post: four members of the faculty and Joyce Watson, the Accreditation Officer requested by the USM board from the Island Government Department of Education in 2007 to assist USM in preparing for accreditation.

Watson is an employee of the Island Government, not USM. Thompson also said it was unethical for a civil servant to apply for the position while it was an internal posting. So, far both Pribble and Watson have failed the University in its quest for accreditation, he said.

"USM Board President Lockie

Johnson is quoted in an article in the media on August 28 informing the public that interviews for a Dean of Academic Affairs were taking place. On that same day, the candidates for the counterpart to the Dean were informed they would be interviewing for the Dean's position the following week, instead of counterpart, as had been advertised," Thompson said.

According to Thompson, the board needs to give the public of St. Maarten an explanation as to how candidates for the job of counterpart to the Dean can become candidates for Dean. He also said this post was one of the highest academic posts in USM and one that was responsible for the institution's overall academic quality.

"Is USM a government-owned institution? Who does USM really belong to?" he asked.

Candidates were interviewed for the Dean's position on August 31 and September 1 without a job description being provided in advance, and not all panellists on the Search Committee interviewed all the candidates. Thompson said this process could be considered faulty in terms of Human Resource practices and left many doubts and unanswered questions about the process.

He questioned why Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Kenneth Nolan, who is supposed to be an equal member of the Management Team, was the only member of that team to be given the right to participate in the process of voting for a new Dean. The other members of the Management Team have not been formally informed of the process or who the candidates are that are vying for the Dean position, he said.

"I would hate for it to appear that Nolan is being given preferential treatment over the other members of the Management Team. The other members are highly qualified, some even have knowledge of hiring and selection processes," Thompson said.

"Though it appears that the members of the Search Committee panel agree that Joyce Watson had performed the least capably during the interviews, she was selected as one of two finalists for

another round of interviews. Is the Board really serious about USM's Academic quality and moving the institution forward academically?" Thompson asked. "This may be significant, since, according to Pribble, the USM Board had indicated that accreditation of the institution was no longer a top priority."

He added that the board should be honest with the university staff as to the direction it wanted the institution to go. He also said the board should respond to reports that Franklin Watson had

resigned from the board to pave the way for his wife to become the Dean of Academics.

"The people of St. Maarten should know that University of St. Martin is a very important institution and crucial to the development of this island nation and especially the youths seeking higher education. As a people, we should all be concerned and involved in whatever happens at this institution, academically and administratively," said Thompson. □

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# \*\*\* Human Hints Daily \*\*\*

## Ancient Indian Text Decoded - Part 5 - Ego Part 2

Humans have never considered the Ego as a separate entity with its own agenda. Until recently, we have not considered that our self-doubt, procrastination, and general determination to sabotage our own pursuits, came from our Ego.

This unconscious part of us has been in charge throughout the recent history of humanity. Until now, Humans have been mostly unconscious, reactionary

creatures. It is now time for Humans to act, think and feel in harmony with our Spirit, and to Unify the separation of Ego.

Understanding how Ego effects our emotions is fundamental to understanding ourselves and how we interact with each other. Since we are all susceptible to it, we can have sympathy and understanding for others when they are unconsciously under Ego's influence.

Now that Ego is temporarily out of the way, we can think logically, if only for a moment. It won't be long before Ego catches on, and returns to make his presence known, often when you and others least expect it.

Ego will strike suddenly, out of fear. When it does, it hurts yourself and those around you. Think of a dog that has been abused and has ended up in the pound. When people come to adopt, the dog will bark and snarl in an effort to keep the people away, to protect itself from whatever it suffered in the past.

When no one is interested, its instinctual effort to protect itself costs the dog its life.

Ego strikes in an effort to protect itself because it thinks there is separation. It does not realize that all things are connected and that other people are just mirrors of ourselves.

When we know there is no separation, we know that hurting others is only hurting ourselves, so there is nothing to fear when we exist in a state of Unity, beyond Ego.

### ~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

HumanHints.com, PO Box 997, Vail, CO 81658

Overcoming our Ego is not hard if we recognize it, understand what motivates it, and trick it into becoming calm and submissive. When we no longer allow our Ego to control us, we can use it to our advantage.

Ego is 100% immature emotion, and zero logic. When people say that they can't believe they acted a certain way, they were usually acting from pure Ego, blind emotion.

It is easy to recognize Ego's behavior in others. You don't have to say anything or act superior because of what you can see.

Just quietly observe. After you see other people's Ego, the next step is to recognize it in yourself. This is the hard part, to admit that you acted in an immature, shameful way. It's hard because it hurts your Ego. Humbling experiences knock the Ego down and keep it in check. This is the built in safety mechanism that does not let the Ego get completely out of control, so be thankful for your humbling experiences.

Next time your Ego rears its head, here's how to gain control. First, recognize your Ego, and thank it for protecting you.

Acknowledge it and release it with thanks for a job well done.

# A matter of choice

An interesting article by political analyst Julio Romney on the issue of dollarisation appeared on the Opinion Pages of Wednesday's issue. His arguments against having Curaçao and St. Maarten switch to the US dollar when the Netherlands Antilles and consequently the Antillean guilder cease to exist include that it would take away the vital role an own currency can play in promoting a sense of national identity and in setting monetary and economic policy that can help insulate a country from outside influences and constraints, while there would no longer be a Central Bank as lender of last resort.

These are certainly worthy considerations, but should be viewed in the context of today's reality. First of all,

one can hardly speak of a joint national identity for Curaçao/St. Maarten when the Antilles ceases to exist, because the lack of such is the main reason for the constitutional changes in the first place, even though both islands will remain part of what can be called the Dutch Caribbean, along with Aruba, which has its own florin, and the BES islands that have already chosen the dollar.

Another reality was brought home by the recent worldwide financial crisis and actually led Antillean Central Bank President Emsley Tromp to suggest the de facto demise of the very institution he heads by choosing for the US dollar: One can no longer speak of true financial autonomy, especially as a small country, because the world's finances


are interrelated to the point that "isolationist" thinking is simply not an option anymore. It is true that the Antillean economy cannot be equated with the kind of instability in terms of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) that is usually equated with countries for which dollarisation is prescribed as a remedy, but that could easily change in the near future. At the same time, the negative balance of payments is a serious concern for a small country that is becoming even smaller as a result of the new relations in the Dutch Kingdom, as the author himself pointed out.

While dollarisation may indeed take away part of government's ability to set policy for the benefit of its constituents, political history when it comes to the Netherlands Antilles in general and Curaçao in particular does not exactly inspire confidence regarding public finances, having built up a debt of five billion guilders that without the Dutch Government's intervention would have become an unbearable burden on taxpayers in the islands. If dollarisation can help prevent a similar debt crisis in the future because it basically means government can only spend what it earns like most people, giving up some financial autonomy in today's global village might well be worth it. □

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# Records: \$86,804 a month to Jackson's mom, kids



**FILE** - In this March 17, 2005 file photo, pop star Michael Jackson arrives at the Santa Barbara County Courthouse in Santa Maria, Calif. (AP Photo/Michael A. Mariant, file)

By **ANTHONY McCARTNEY**, AP Entertainment Writer  
**LOS ANGELES** — Michael Jackson's mother is receiving \$86,804 per month from her son's estate to support herself and her three grandchildren, according to court records released Thursday. Katherine Jackson is one of the primary beneficiaries of her son's estate along with the late pop singer's three young children and unnamed charities. Over the course of a year, Jackson's mother and children are slated to receive more than \$1 million in support from the estate. Katherine Jackson's monthly allowance is \$26,804; the children's allowance is \$60,000 per month. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mitchell Beckloff approved a monthly stipend for Katherine Jackson and her three grandchildren in August. The amount of the payments had been sealed until Thursday. Katherine Jackson has

been named the children's permanent guardian. They are currently living at the Jackson family home in the San Fernando Valley. Katherine Jackson's \$26,804 per month pays for an assistant, housekeeper, driver, utilities, clothing, grooming and other expenses. The petition does not provide many details about how the money is being spent on Jackson's children, who range in age from 7 to 12. A redacted spreadsheet included in the filings states that \$315,000 per year is being spent on employees caring for the children, and another \$160,000 is being set aside for entertainment and other expenses. Attorneys for the estate argued that release of the names of staffers helping care for the children could compromise their security and privacy. Michael Jackson was extremely protective of his children, often dressing them in costumes or masks to hide their faces when they were in public. Beckloff agreed to keep those details private but said he did not think the total amounts could remain sealed. Katherine Jackson's attorney had argued that records should remain private. The judge has scheduled a progress report for Oct. 2 to hear how the children are faring since their father's death. Estate attorneys have said they do not know how much of the expenses being paid to Katherine Jackson may be helping other members of the family. When the stipend was approved in August, they said they may revisit how much will be paid later. □

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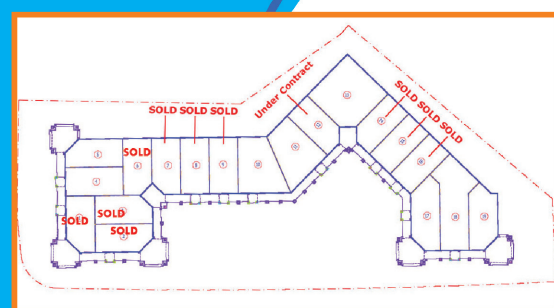
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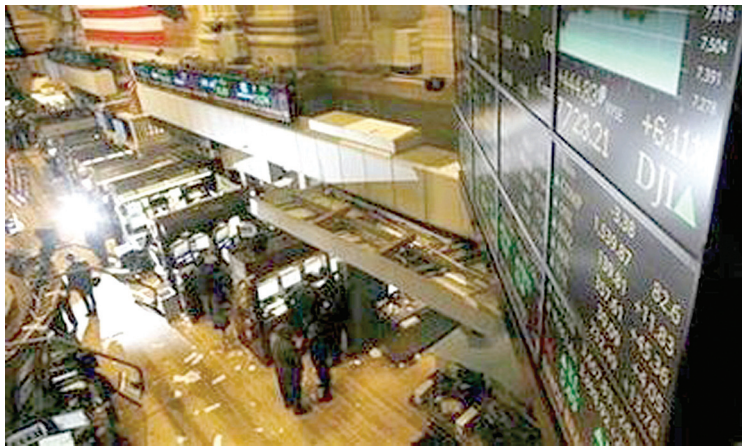




# Stocks slip as investors take break from rally

By TIM PARADIS,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — A surprise drop in unemployment claims couldn't fuel another day of gains for the stock market. Stocks posted modest losses in quiet trading Thursday after a three-day advance. Traders found little in the weekly employment data, or in reports on housing and manufacturing, to provide new encouragement about an economic recovery. Stocks surrendered early gains around midday and the Dow Jones industrial average ended with a loss of 8 points. Lackluster earnings reports from FedEx Corp. and Oracle Corp. added to investors' caution. The stock market has risen in eight of the past 10 days and hopes for a recovery have propelled the Standard & Poor's 500 index up 57.5 percent from a 12-year low in early March. The pace of the gains has brought warnings from analysts that stocks have risen too quickly. "This market has become kind of saturated with good news," said Jeff Kleintop, chief market strategist at LPL Financial. The Labor Department said workers filing for jobless claims for the first time dipped to 545,000 last week from an upwardly revised 557,000 the previous week. Economists polled by Thomson Reuters were expecting claims to rise. It was the lowest level of new claims since early July, indicating job cuts could be easing. However, those continuing to file for claims came in just above analysts' forecasts at 6.2 million. Many economists consider unemployment to be the biggest obstacle to a rebound in the economy. The Commerce Department said housing starts rose in



August to their highest level in nine months amid a jump in apartment building. The increase was just below the pace economists had forecast. Similarly, the Philadelphia Federal Reserve's index of regional manufacturing conditions rose for a second straight month to its highest level since June 2007. However, a drop in new orders from August worried some investors. Weaker sales at FedEx and Oracle stirred concerns about how corporate revenue will hold up for the July-September quarter. In the prior quarter, companies relied on cost-cutting, not revenue growth, to boost earnings. David Chalupnik, head of equities at First American Funds, still expects stocks will push higher but said a break is necessary. "Eventually the market does need to take a breather," he said. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 7.79, or 0.1 percent, to 9,783.92. On Wednesday, the Dow jumped 108 points to a high for the year. The S&P 500 index fell 3.27, or 0.3 percent, to 1,065.49, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 6.40, or 0.3 percent, to 2,126.75. Kleintop is encouraged that some of the market's recent gains have been moderate and that investors remain skeptical.

The counterintuitive logic of Wall Street would argue that all the predictions of a slide could keep the rally going. "It's been kind of a steady grind over time bringing investors kind of kicking and screaming back into this market," he said. Bond prices jumped, pushing yields lower. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.39 percent from 3.48 percent late Wednesday. The dollar was mixed against other currencies, while gold prices fell. Among stocks, FedEx fell \$1.74, or 2.2 percent, to \$76.46 and Oracle slid 61 cents, or 2.8 percent, to \$21.52. American Airlines' parent AMR Corp. jumped \$1.45, or 19.7 percent, to \$8.80 after the company said it secured \$2.9 billion in cash and financing. Crude oil fell 3 cents to settle at \$72.47 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. About three stocks fell for every two that rose on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume came to 6.7 billion shares compared with 6.9 billion Wednesday. The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies fell 1.91, or 0.3 percent, to 615.47. Overseas, Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.8 percent, Germany's DAX index gained 0.5 percent, and France's CAC-40 rose 0.6 percent. Japan's Nikkei stock average jumped 1.7 percent

## World's 2 most valuable brands: Coca-Cola, IBM

By EMILY FREDRIX,  
AP Marketing Writer

Consumers lost trust in brands this year as the recession deepened, according to an industry report released Thursday, although longtime staples Coca-Cola and IBM retained their spots as the world's two most valuable brands. This is the first time the combined value of the world's top 100 brands as ranked by Interbrand, a branding agency, has fallen in the 10 years Interbrand has assessed them. The list's total value, including brands like Google Inc., Nintendo and Sony, fell 4.6 percent to \$1.15 trillion, Interbrand estimates. "That says something about the environment that we're in, especially when you consider that brands are by nature less volatile than business valuations," said Interbrand CEO Jez Frampton, who called a company's brand its most valuable asset. The environment — a recession the likes of which the world hasn't seen for decades — has eaten away at people's trust in specific brands, starting with financial companies, he said. Consumers even started to question retail brands as stores slashed prices to get sales, leading consumers to wonder about pricing, and why they had to pay so much before. "All of these things lead you to re-evaluate the nature of the relationships that we have with brands and indeed how confident we feel in brands to live up to the promises they make," he said. "Brands are promises which we value and are prepared to pay for and if we feel those promises have been broken we're less likely to trust." Brands are more than just names, colors or logos — think Coca-Cola's red or McDonald's golden arches. A brand includes all the elements of a product or service from its design, ingredients and manufacture to its marketing, advertising and logo. A well-honed brand evokes in consumers an emotion and a promise of what it will deliver, without the consumer having to do much — if any — research, said Allen Adamson, managing director at branding firm Landor Associates. Brands are important for all businesses, and critical in categories that have direct consumer contact, like autos, he said. "In a cluttered world where people are time-compressed, brands are short cuts to help them make decisions," he said. Each year, Interbrand ranks companies by the amount of their revenue that is attributable to their brands, using a formula that takes into account the brand's future strength and its role in creating demand, whether among consumers or business customers or both. The firm assigns a monetary value to each brand and measures annual growth, in this case from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009. Given the recession, it was not surprising to see financial companies posting the steepest decline in their brands' values this year, with drops by American Express (now number 22, down from 15) HSBC (now 32, down from 27), Citi (now 36, down from 19), and UBS (now 72, down from 41). Merrill Lynch and AIG both dropped off the list. Automakers also dropped in the rankings as their sector's sales slumped in the recession. In addition, major U.S.





Raymond Clark III, center is arraigned at Superior Court in New Haven, Conn. Thursday Sept. 17, 2009 in connection with the murder of Annie Le, a Yale graduate student whose body was found stuffed inside a lab wall Sunday. From left are Assistant Public Defender Joseph E. Lopez, Raymond Clark III, Senior Assistant Public Defender, Beth Merkin, right, Bail Commissioner Sharon Moye-Johnson.

Associated Press

## Obama junks Bush's EU missile defense shield plan

ANNE GEARAN

AP National Security Writer  
50 WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama abruptly canceled a long-planned missile shield for Eastern Europe on Thursday, replacing a Bush-era project that was bitterly opposed by Russia with a plan he contended would mount a better defense against a threat of Iranian missiles. The United States no longer will seek to erect a missile base and radar site in Poland and the Czech Republic, poised at Russia's hemline. That change is bound to please the Russians, who never accepted U.S. arguments, made by both the Bush and Obama administrations, that the shield was intended strictly as a defense against Iran and other "rogue states."

Scrapping the planned shield, however, means upending agreements with the host countries that had



President Barack Obama speaks about the U.S. missile defense shield in the Czech Republic and Poland, that had deeply angered Russia, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009, at the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

cost those allies political support among their own people. Obama called Polish and Czech leaders ahead of his announcement, and a team of senior diplomats and others flew to Europe to lay out the new plan. "Our new missile defense architecture in Europe will provide stronger, smarter, and swifter defenses of American forces and

America's allies," Obama said in announcing the shift. The replacement system would link smaller radar systems with a network of sensors and missiles that could be deployed at sea or on land. Some of the weaponry and sensors are ready now, and the rest would be developed during the next 10 years.

Continued on Next Page

## Yale lab tech charged with grad student's murder

RAY HENRY

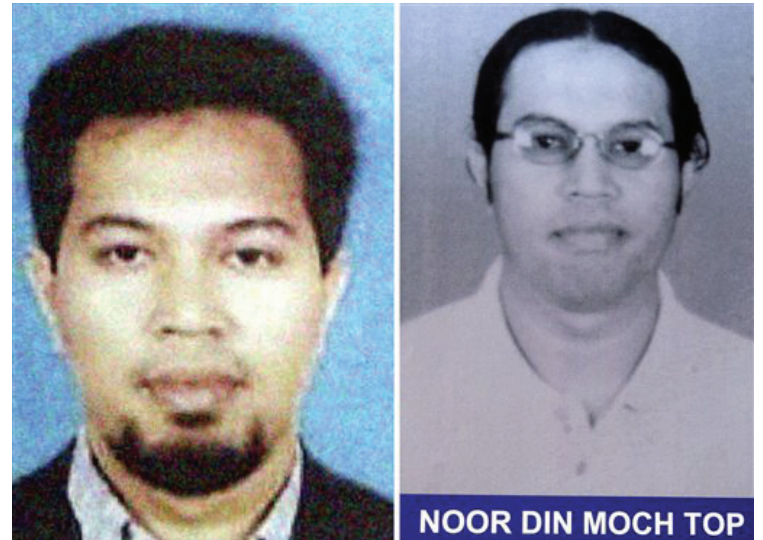
Associated Press Writer

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — A Yale lab technician appeared in court and was charged with murder Thursday hours after his arrest in the killing of a graduate student in a research building where they both worked — perhaps sometimes in conflict.

Raymond Clark III, 24, kept his head bowed during the three-minute appearance in the suffocation death of Annie Le, also 24.

He didn't enter a plea and said, "Yes, your honor," when asked whether he understood his rights. The judge then set bail at \$3 million.

Continued on Page B5



NOOR DIN MOCH TOP

In this combination file photo released by the Indonesian National police, Malaysian terror suspect Noordin Muhammed Top is seen, more recently in photo at right. An Indonesian police chief said Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009, that Top, a regional terrorism mastermind who eluded capture for nine years and is blamed for a string of deadly attacks in Indonesia, was killed in a police raid on a terrorist hideout in Central Java.

Associated Press

## Terror mastermind Noordin Top killed in Indonesia

ANTHONY DEUTSCH,  
IMRON ROSYID

Associated Press Writers

SOLO, Indonesia (AP) — Special forces raided a hide-out Thursday and killed militant mastermind Noordin Muhammed Top, striking at the heart of the terrorist network behind a deadly campaign of suicide attacks in Indonesia, including the Bali nightclub bombings. It was the latest success against terror figures worldwide, starting with a U.S. missile that took out a key Taliban commander in Pakistan last month.

Continued on Page B8





Joint Chiefs Vice Chairman Gen. James E. Cartwright, right, accompanied by Defense Secretary Robert Gates, gestures during a news conference at the Pentagon, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009.

## EU MISSILE

*Continued from Page B1*

The change comes days before Obama is to meet with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev at the United Nations and the Group of 20 economic summit, also in the United States. Medvedev reacted positively, calling the decision a "responsible move."

"The U.S. president's decision is a well-thought-out and systematic one," said Konstantin Kosachev,

head of the foreign affairs committee in the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian Parliament. "It reflects understanding that any security measure can't be built entirely on the basis of one nation."

At the same time, Russia's top diplomat warned that Moscow remains opposed to new punitive sanctions on Iran to stop what the West contends is a drive toward nuclear weapons.

The spokesman of Iran's parliamentary committee on national security and foreign policy, Kazem Jalali, called the decision positive, though in a backhanded way.

"It would be more positive if President Obama entirely give up such plans, which were based on the Bush administration's Iran-phobic policies," Jalali told The Associated Press.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Iran's changing capabilities drove the decision, not any concern about the Russians, but he acknowledged that the replacement system was likely to allay some of Russia's misgivings.

American reaction quickly split along partisan lines. Longtime Republican supporters of the missile defense idea called the switch naive and a sop to Russia. Democrats welcomed the move, with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi calling it "brilliant."

"The administration apparently has decided to empower Russia and Iran at the expense

of the national security interests of the United States and our allies in Europe," said Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, senior Republican on the House Armed Services Committee.

The Democratic chairman of that committee, Rep. Ike Skelton, told the AP the shift reflected a proper understanding of the current threat from Iran.

"It's about short- and medium-range missiles," Skelton said. The Obama administration said the shift is a commonsense answer to the evolution of both the threat and the U.S. understanding of it. Iran has not shown that it is close to being able to lob a long-range missile, perhaps with a nuclear warhead, at U.S. allies in Europe.

The Bush administration had calculated that Iran might be able to do that as early as 2012.

Iran has improved its ability to launch shorter-range missiles, however, and despite the crude nature of some of those

weapons, the Pentagon now considers them a greater short-term threat.

The United States will join international talks with Iran next month, a major shift that makes good on Obama's campaign pledge to engage the main U.S. adversary in the Middle East.

The new government in Washington never had sounded enthusiastic about the Bush administration's European missile defense arrangement, in part because Russia's adamant opposition was getting in the way of repairing damaged ties with Moscow and partly because some in the new administration felt Russia had a point. Moscow said the system could undermine its own deterrent capability.

It is unclear whether any part of the future system would be in Poland or the Czech Republic. Gates said it might, and he also said he hopes Poland will still approve a broad military cooperation agreement with the United States. □




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# NYC synagogue bomb defendants may claim entrapment

JIM FITZGERALD

Associated Press Writer

WHITE PLAINS, New York (AP) — Four ex-convicts accused of plotting to bomb synagogues and shoot down military planes apparently will claim they were lured into the conspiracy with gifts including cash and fried chicken.

Defense lawyers demanded Thursday in federal court that prosecutors turn over evidence of any payments, promises or other inducements offered by an informant who infiltrated the group.

The four men are accused of plotting to destroy two synagogues in the heavily Jewish Riverdale section of the Bronx and to shoot down planes at an Air National Guard base north of New York City. Because the FBI was in on the plot, the bombs and missiles the men obtained were useless, prosecutors say. The men have pleaded not guilty and are being held without bail. One of them is a petty criminal who spent a day in 2002 snatching purses and shooting at people with an airgun, while three have histories of drug convictions. Theodore Green, attorney for defendant David Williams, 28, mentioned the entrapment defense, which generally claims that a person was enticed to do something illegal that he would not otherwise have done.

Among the enticements the defense lawyers said they had already heard about were

checks of up to \$25,000, gifts to the men's families and "some kind of charge account" at a Crown fried chicken store in Newburgh, where the four men live.

"My client could go there and not pay," said lawyer Marilyn Reader, who is defending Laguerre Payen, 27.

Susanne Brody, the lawyer for Onta Williams, 32, said that when viewing government surveillance video, there was hardly a scene "where you don't see eating going on." The informant paid for those meals, she asserted, and the defense wants documentation. Green said the defense also wants to know whether the informant was acting on his own or following orders when he offered gifts — and who gave the orders. He also demanded to know "what instructions were given the cooperating witness about entrapment and any limits imposed on him."

The defense also is seeking information about any conversations the informant had "advocating violence or holding extremist views," Green said.

Prosecutor David Leibowitz said he had already turned over all recorded evidence of inducements, but Green said the defense also wants the government to share any knowledge, recorded or not, of other offers.

Leibowitz said he would inquire about "whether there was a Crown Chicken



In this Aug. 28, 2009 photo, Rabbi Danny Marmorstein of Congregation Ahavat Olam carries their newly obtained Torah in the Synagogue in Miami. Marmorstein uses the Yiddish word "bashert" to describe how a Torah created in 19th-century Eastern Europe survived the Nazi regime in near-perfect condition and landed a world away at his tiny synagogue. The 131-year-old Torah is being celebrated at Congregation Ahavat Olam for the first time on Rosh Hashanah, offering a powerful symbol on the endurance of the Jewish faith.

relationship."

Two of the defendants, Payen and James Cromitie, 55, had spent time at a mosque in Newburgh. Green said the defense had information that the informant had approached "one or more other mosques in the Hudson Valley trying to get membership lists."

Judge Colleen McMahon said the defense could file motions if it disagreed with the prosecution about what evidence has to be turned over. She scheduled another status conference for Dec. 4 and said jury selection would begin June 14.

About a dozen supporters of the defendants were in the courtroom, most of them friends or relatives of David Williams, who is not related to Onta Williams.

Alicia McWilliams, David

Williams' aunt, said the four men could not have organized a sophisticated plot without direction.

"They couldn't do a barbecue," she said. □

Associated Press

## Cheney hospitalized for elective back surgery

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney is having elective back surgery at a Washington hospital.

Cheney spokeswoman Lucy Tutwiler says the surgery Thursday is to deal with lumbar spinal stenosis, a common cause of lower back pain in older adults.

Spinal stenosis is a narrowing of the spinal canal — the passage for the spinal cord — which in turn puts pressure on nerves, causing pain. Surgery is done to widen the passage and ease that pressure, typically by removing a bit of the vertebra.

Dr. Anthony Caputy, chairman of the George Washington University Hospital's neurosurgery department, is performing the operation.

Cheney is 68 years old. He has had four heart attacks. □



Former Vice President Dick Cheney smiles during a dedication ceremony for the Cheney International Center on the University of Wyoming campus Thursday September 10, 2009 in Laramie, Wyo.

Associated Press

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# Mass. House approves Sen. Kennedy succession bill



Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick speaks to reporters at the Statehouse in Boston, Monday, Aug. 31, 2009, where he announced that a special election to fill the Senate seat left vacant by the death of Sen. Edward Kennedy will be held Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010. Patrick also discussed hip replacement surgery, which his is scheduled to undergo Sept. 1, 2009.

STEVE LeBLANC

Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP) — The Massachusetts House of Representatives has approved a bill allowing Gov. Deval Patrick to name an interim appointment to the Senate seat left vacant by the death of Edward Kennedy, which could help Democrats regain a supermajority in the Senate.

Associated Press

The House voted 95-58 in favor of the bill Thursday evening. The bill now moves to the Massachusetts Senate. The move could result in the Democrats regaining control of 60 out of 100 seats in the Senate, a key number for passing legislation.

Kennedy, in a letter sent to lawmakers before his death, urged the change in law saying “it is vital for this Commonwealth to have two voices speaking for the needs of its citizens.”

House Speaker Robert DeLeo, a Democrat, said the change is needed to ensure Massachusetts continues to be represented by two senators until voters can choose a replacement during a Jan. 19 special election.

“I just want to make sure that Massachusetts has a say ... that Massachusetts has their voice heard on health care, on the environment, on clean energy,” DeLeo said.

Patrick, a Democrat and ally of President Barack Obama, also supports the change.

Republicans, who number just 16 in the House, oppose the bill.

They point out that Democrats changed the succession law in 2004 to create a special election and block then-Gov. Mitt Romney, a Republican, from naming a temporary replacement if Sen. John Kerry had won his presidential bid.

To change the law now that there is a Democrat in the governor’s office smacks of hypocrisy, they said.

“When Senator Kennedy passed away we started (with) the law that was on the books and we shouldn’t be changing the law midstream,” said House Republican leader Rep. Bradley H. Jones Jr. “Everything else is ancillary and extraneous to that.”

Kennedy died of brain cancer on Aug. 25.

The debate is being followed closely in Washington, where Democrats hope to regain their 60-vote margin in the U.S. Senate ahead of any debate on President

Obama’s health care overhaul.

Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid and Massachusetts’ all-Democratic delegation to the U.S. House also back the change, saying they need all the votes they can to support the health care change.

Obama presidential counselor David Axelrod has contacted Massachusetts officials, according to White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs. The Massachusetts branch of Obama’s political arm, Organizing for America, has sent out e-mails advocating for the change.

To avoid giving an unfair advantage to candidates for the seat, DeLeo said House lawmakers hoped to pass a separate resolution stating that it is the House’s intention that an appointee not also be a candidate in the special election.

Patrick has said he would extract from the appointee a promise not to be a candidate in the special election. The bill was immediately shipped to the Massachusetts Senate. Senate President Therese Murray, a Democrat, has been tightlipped about the bill’s chances in that chamber.

Senate Republican leader Richard Tisei has said he’ll object to the Senate taking up the bill. Senate rules require unanimous consent to debate a bill not already on the calendar, and the succession bill wasn’t listed for Thursday’s session.

An objection would delay it until the Senate’s next formal session. There is none scheduled for Friday. Tisei could use other parliamentary moves to delay a vote for additional days. Those said to be under consideration for an interim appointment include former Gov. Michael Dukakis, former Democratic National Committee Chairman Paul Kirk Jr.; former Massachusetts Senate President Robert Travaglini, former Kennedy staff chief Nick Littlefield, Harvard Law School Professor Charles Ogletree and former state Treasurer Shannon O’Brien. □

# House votes to deny all federal funds for ACORN

By JIM ABRAMS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The House voted Thursday to deny all federal funds for ACORN in a GOP-led strike against the scandal-tainted community organizing group that comes just three days after the Senate took similar action. “ACORN has violated serious federal laws, and today the House voted to ensure that taxpayer dollars would no longer be used to fund this corrupt organization,” said second-ranked House Republican Eric Cantor of Virginia.

The vote, on a provision attached to a student aid bill, was 345-75, with Democrats supplying all the “no” votes. On Monday the Senate voted 83-7 to deny housing and community grant funding to ACORN, which stands

for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now. Republicans accelerated their attacks on the liberal-leaning group a year ago when ACORN, in conducting a massive voter registration drive, was accused of submitting some false registration forms.

On a hidden-camera video released on Monday, two ACORN employees are seen apparently advising a couple that was posing as a prostitute and her pimp to lie about her profession and launder her earnings. The video was the latest in a series that has already led to the firing of four ACORN employees in Baltimore and Washington. It was created by James O’Keefe and Hannah Giles and posted on BigGovernment.com, where O’Keefe identifies himself as

an activist filmmaker.

ACORN spokesman Scott Levenson blasted the video shot at the organization’s Brooklyn office, saying the group believes the voices of the couple were dubbed over to alter the conversation and make the interaction appear more objectionable than it may have been.

ACORN said Wednesday that it is ordering its own independent investigation of the incidents, while stressing that they were isolated cases. The Census Bureau, meanwhile, also has severed its ties with the group for the 2010 national census.

Republicans have urged federal officials to go further by launching a comprehensive investigation of how ACORN spends and manages federal money.

“As long as taxpayers are subsidizing ACORN and its affiliates, we need to use every measure possible to ensure that those dollars are being spent and managed appropriately,” said Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., sponsor of the measure that passed the House.

The Senate and House initiatives to cut funding for ACORN won’t take effect until the bills to which they are attached clear Congress and are signed by President Barack Obama. The Senate measure is attached to a fiscal 2010 spending bill.

“President Obama needs to indicate whether he’ll sign this bill and join us in ending all taxpayer funds for this corrupt organization,” House Republican leader John Boehner of Ohio said after the vote.

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs on Wednesday said the conduct seen on the tapes “is completely unacceptable.” He said the Obama administration “takes accountability extremely seriously” and noted that the Census Bureau had determined that ACORN could not meet its goal for conducting a fair and accurate count next year. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, in a conference call with reporters, called the latest allegations against ACORN “horrible.” However, she pointed out that ACORN has many honest employees and was conducting an internal investigation, and that it was up to House-Senate negotiators to determine whether the provision to cut funding would be in the final version of the bill. □



**STUDENT'S MURDER**

*Continued from Page B1*

People interviewed by police have painted Clark as a "control freak" who viewed the laboratory as his territory, and authorities are investigating whether that led to the killing, according to a law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the probe continues and many details remain sealed.

Investigators are having a tough time identifying a motive because Clark won't talk to police, the official said, noting that authorities don't necessarily need a motive because they have strong forensic evidence.

New Haven Police Chief James Lewis said reports that the two had a romantic relationship were untrue "to my knowledge."

"It is important to note that this is not about urban crime, university crime, domestic

crime but an issue of workplace violence, which is becoming a growing concern around the country," Lewis said, adding he wasn't ruling out additional charges.

Clark appeared in court with two public defenders. One of the attorneys, Joseph Lopez, said they would be handling Clark's case, which had previously been handled by a different lawyer. Lopez said he was still reviewing the case and declined to comment.

Clark was arrested earlier Thursday at a Super 8 hotel about 25 miles north of the Ivy League campus, where he got a room shortly after being released from police questioning in Le's death.

Le was found dead on Sunday, her body hidden in the basement wall of a building where she worked as a medical researcher, on the day she was to marry her college sweetheart, Columbia University graduate student

Jonathan Widawsky. The Connecticut medical examiner said Wednesday that Le died of "traumatic asphyxiation." Authorities released no details on how she died, but traumatic asphyxiation could be consistent with a choke hold or some other form of pressure-induced asphyxiation caused by a hand or an object, such as a pipe. Clark was under constant surveillance after he was released, and police spent Wednesday night and Thursday morning staking out the Super 8 hotel where Clark was staying.

Shortly after 8 a.m. Thursday, police moved closer, shutting down the highway outside the hotel and blocking the road leading into the hotel as they made the arrest. Clark was wearing a white shirt with tan stripes and tan pants as police ushered him into the back of a dark sedan with tinted windows. The car then sped off toward the highway,



**Raymond Clark III, 24, is lead into court in New Haven, Conn. by judicial marshals and a police officer Thursday Sept. 17, 2009 for an arraignment in connection to the murder of Annie Le, a Yale graduate student whose body was found stuffed inside the wall of a research building wall Sunday.**

*Associated Press*

and arrived at the New Haven police department about an hour later.

Richard Levin, the president of Yale, released a statement shortly after the arrest, saying Clark's employment history gave no indication he was capable of such a crime.

"This incident could have happened in any city, in any university, or in any workplace. It says more about

the dark side of the human soul than it does about the extent of security measures,"

Levin said in a message sent to the Yale community.

The family of Le's finace, Jonathan Widawsky, issued a statement on Thursday, thanking people who were involved in preparations for "a wedding that was not to be."

Clark's next court date is Oct. 6. □

# Man faces more questioning in terror probe

**KRISTIN WYATT**

*Associated Press Writer*

DENVER (AP) — A man identified by law enforcement as having a possible link to al-Qaida met with his attorney Thursday before a second round of questioning by federal agents.

Najibullah Zazi planned to meet with FBI agents later in the day, said the attorney, Arthur Folsom.

Agents questioned Zazi for hours on Wednesday. They also searched Zazi's apartment and the home of his aunt and uncle, both in the east Denver suburb of Aurora.

Folsom said Zazi has never met with al-Qaida operatives and isn't involved in terrorism.

"He's simply somebody who was in the wrong place at the wrong time," Folsom said.

Folsom said he believes the FBI would have arrested Zazi if agents had found anything suspicious his apartment, but Zazi is still free.

"They wouldn't have taken a chance on his appearing (Thursday)," Folsom said.

Folsom says Zazi, 24, was born in Afghanistan in 1985, moved to Pakistan at age 7 and emigrated to the United States in 1999. Zazi's aunt had said earlier that he was born in Pakistan and grew up in Queens, New York.

Folsom said Zazi has returned to Pakistan four times in recent years: in 2004 because his grandfather was sick and dying, in 2006 to get married and in 2007 and 2008 to visit his wife.

Two law enforcement officials told The Associated Press on Tuesday that a joint FBI-New York Police Department task force had put Zazi under surveillance because of suspected links to al-Qaida.

The task force also feared Zazi may be involved in a potential plot involving homemade hydrogen peroxide-based explosives like those cited in



**Najibullah Zazi leaves his apartment in Aurora, Colo., for a meeting with his attorney on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009. Agents, identified by law enforcement as having a possible link to al-Qaida, questioned Zazi for hours on Wednesday. Agents also searched Zazi's apartment and the home of his aunt and uncle, both in the east Denver suburb of Aurora. Zazi will meet with FBI agents Thursday afternoon.**

*Associated Press*

an intelligence warning issued Monday, said the officials, who spoke on anonymity because they were not authorized to speak about the investigation. After Zazi traveled to New York City over the weekend, FBI agents and police officers armed with search warrants seeking bomb materials searched three apartments and questioned residents in a predominantly Asian neighborhood in Queens. □

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An Afghan woman injured in a suicide attack cries for help near the site where a suicide car bomber attacked an Italian military convoy on a road in Kabul, Afghanistan, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009.

AMIR SHAH  
HEIDI VOGT

Associated Press Writers

KABUL (AP) — A suicide car bomber killed six Italian soldiers and 10 Afghan civilians Thursday in the heavily guarded capital of Kabul — a grim reminder of the Taliban's reach amid political uncertainty in

Associated Press

Afghanistan.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the deadliest attack for the Italian contingent in the country.

Violence has increased since the U.S. sent thousands more troops to push back the resurgent Taliban and bolster security for last month's still-unresolved presidential

# Car bomb in Kabul kills six Italians, 10 Afghans

election. The Taliban made good on threats to disturb the vote, and militant attacks have risen not just in the group's southern heartland but also in the north and in Kabul and surrounding areas.

The bomber rammed his explosives-filled car into two Italian military vehicles in a convoy about midday. Four Italian soldiers were also wounded, said Italian Defense Minister Ignazio La Russa. The Afghan Interior Ministry said an additional 55 civilians were injured.

The explosion shattered windows in buildings about half a mile away and shook offices and homes throughout the central Afghan neighborhood that houses embassies and military bases.

Charred vehicles littered the road just off a main traffic circle that leads to the airport. An Associated Press reporter saw six vehicles burned, including an Italian Humvee, and two bodies covered with plastic sheets.

Shopkeeper Feraudin Ansari said he felt the blast in his store about 50 yards away. Windows were broken in all the shops on the street. He said he was angry at NATO forces for being in the downtown area.

"Why are you patrolling inside the city? There is no al-Qaida, no Taliban here," said Ansari, 25. "My shop is destroyed, and my head hurts from the blast."

Elsewhere, a NATO service member died from a bomb

strike in the south Wednesday, NATO forces said.

In addition to violence, Afghanistan is mired in debates about the legitimacy of the fraud-tainted presidential balloting, whose uncertain result threatens to undermine the government's authority.

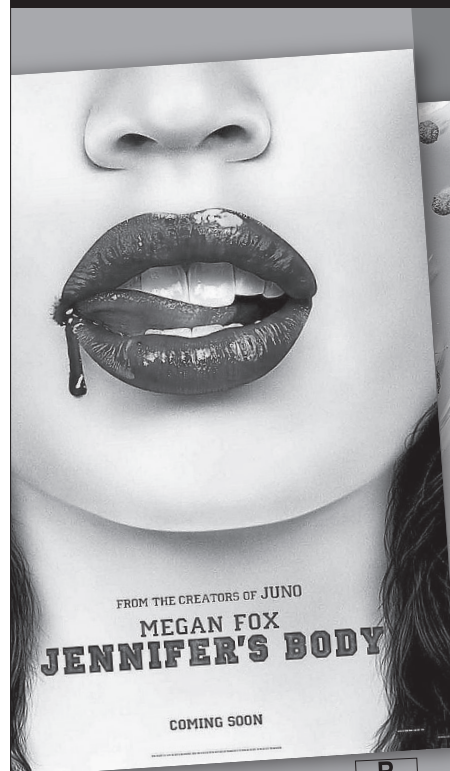
In his first public comments on the disputed election, President Hamid Karzai defended its integrity, saying Thursday he had seen only limited proof of fraud. Full preliminary results showed him with 54.6 percent of the vote, well ahead of leading challenger, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah. But recounts and fraud investigations could drive Karzai's total below 50 percent, forcing him into a runoff. □



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\*matinee: saturday & sunday | late show: friday and saturday

AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD				
PG	CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS			NEW 3D
	daily:	4:00	6:00	
	matinee:	12:00	2:00	late show:

R	WHITEOUT			NEW
	daily:	5:15	7:30	9:45
	matinee:	12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00

R	JENNIFER'S BODY			NEW
	daily:	5:30	7:45	10:00
	matinee:	1:00	3:15	late show: 12:15

PG-13	TYLER PERRY'S I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF			
	daily:	4:00	6:30	9:00
	matinee:	1:30	late show:	11:45

R	FINAL DESTINATION 4			3D
	daily:		8:00	10:00
	matinee:			12:00

PG	ALIENS IN THE ATTIC			
	daily:	5:45		
	matinee:	1:15	3:30	late show:

R	INGLORIOUS BASTERDS			
	daily:		8:15	
	matinee:		late show:	11:30

PG	SHORTS			
	daily:	5:00	7:15	9:30
	matinee:	12:30	2:45	late show: 11:45

AT PASEO HERENCIA				
PG	CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS			NEW 3D
	daily:	4:15	6:15	
	matinee:	12:15	2:15	late show:

R	WHITEOUT			NEW
	daily:	5:15	7:30	9:45
	matinee:	12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00

R	JENNIFER'S BODY			NEW
	daily:	5:30	7:45	10:00
	matinee:	1:00	3:15	late show: 12:15

PG-13	TYLER PERRY'S I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF			
	daily:	6:00	8:30	
	matinee:	12:45	3:15	late show: 11:15

PG-13	THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE			
	daily:	4:00	6:30	9:00
	matinee:	1:45	late show:	11:30

PG-13	G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF THE COBRA			
	daily:	6:00	8:45	
	matinee:	12:30	3:30	late show: 11:15

R	FINAL DESTINATION 4			3D
	daily:		8:15	10:00
	matinee:			late show: 11:45



# AP NewsBreak: Nuke agency says Iran can make bomb

GEORGE JAHN

Associated Press Writer

VIENNA (AP) — Iran experts at the U.N nuclear monitoring agency believe Tehran has the ability to make a nuclear bomb and worked on developing a missile system that can carry an atomic warhead, according to a confidential report seen by The Associated Press.

The document drafted by senior officials at the International Atomic Energy Agency is the clearest indication yet that those officials share Washington's views on Iran's weapon-making capabilities and missile technology — even if they have not made those views public.

The document, titled "Possible Military Dimension of Iran's Nuclear Program," appeared to be the so-called IAEA "secret annex" on Iran's alleged nuclear arms program that the U.S., France, Israel and other IAEA members say is being withheld by agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei — claims the nuclear watchdog denies.

It is a record of IAEA findings since the agency began probing Iran's nuclear program in 2007 and has been continuously updated.

The information in the document that is either new, more detailed or represents a more forthright conclusion than found in published IAEA reports includes:

— The IAEA's assessment that Iran worked on developing a chamber inside a ballistic missile capable of housing a warhead payload "that is quite likely to be nuclear."

— That Iran engaged in "probable testing" of explosives commonly used to detonate a nuclear warhead — a method known as a "full-scale hemispherical explosively driven shock system."

— An assessment that Iran worked on developing a system "for initiating a hemispherical high explosive charge" of the kind used to help spark a nuclear blast.

In another key finding, an excerpt notes: "The agency ... assesses that Iran has sufficient information to be able to design and produce a workable

implosion nuclear device (an atomic bomb) based on HEU (highly enriched uranium) as the fission fuel."

ElBaradei said in 2007 there was no "concrete evidence" that Iran was engaged in atomic weapons work — a source of friction with the United States, which has sought a hard-line stance on Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

Responding to the AP report, the agency did not deny the existence of a confidential record of its knowledge and assessment of Iran's alleged attempts to make nuclear weapons. But an agency statement said the IAEA "has no concrete proof that there is or has been a nuclear weapon program in Iran."

It cited ElBaradei as telling the agency's 35-nation governing board last week that "continuing allegations that the IAEA was withholding information on Iran are politically motivated and totally baseless."

"Information from a variety of sources ... is critically assessed by a team of experts working collectively in accordance with the agency's practices," it said.

"The IAEA reiterates that all relevant information and assessments that have gone through the above process have already been provided to the IAEA Board of Governors in reports of the director general."

The document traces Iran's nuclear arms ambitions as far back as 1984, when current supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was president and Iran was at war with Iraq.

At a top-level meeting at that time, according to the document, Khamenei endorsed a nuclear weapons program, saying "a nuclear arsenal would serve Iran as a deterrent in the hands of God's soldiers."

He and other top Iranian leaders insist their country is opposed to nuclear weapons, describing them as contrary to Islam. They argue that Iran's uranium enrichment program and other activities are strictly for civilian purposes.

Senior U.S. government officials have for years held

the view that Iran has the expertise to make a bomb.

The Obama administration said Thursday it was scrapping a Bush-era plan for a missile defense shield in Eastern Europe. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said the decision came after U.S. intelligence concluded that Iran's short- and medium-range missiles were developing more rapidly than previously projected and now pose a greater near-term threat than the intercontinental ballistic missiles addressed by the plan under former President George W. Bush.

The AP saw two versions of the U.N. document — one running 67 pages that was described as being between six months and a year old, and the most recent one with more than 80 pages and growing because of constant updates. Both were tagged "confidential."

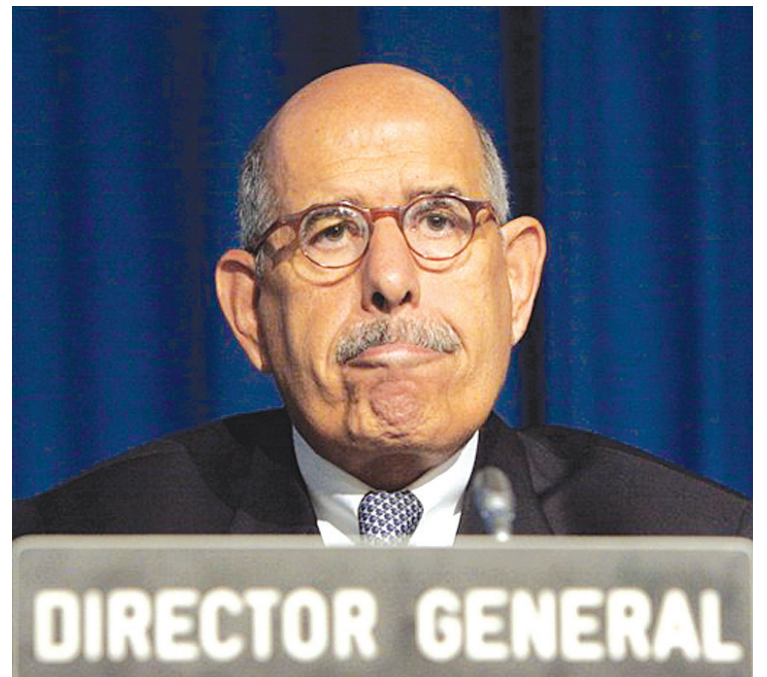
A senior international official identified the document as one described by the U.S. and other IAEA member nations as a "secret annex" on Iran's nuclear program. The IAEA has called reports of a "secret annex" misinformation.

The document is based on intelligence provided by member states, the agency's own investigations and input from outside nuclear arms experts under contract with the IAEA.

Iran is under three sets of U.N. Security Council sanctions for refusing to freeze enrichment, the key to making both nuclear fuel and weapons-grade uranium. It is blocking IAEA attempts to probe allegations based on U.S., Israeli and other intelligence that it worked on a nuclear weapons program.

Iran recently agreed to meet Oct. 1 with the U.S. and five other world powers seeking curbs on its atomic activities for the first time in more than a year. But Tehran says it is not prepared to discuss its nuclear activities.

Presented with excerpts from the earlier paper, the senior international official said some of the wording and conclusions were outdated because they had been updated as recently as several weeks ago by IAEA experts probing Iran for signs it was — or is — hiding work



Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, Mohamed ElBaradei listens to a speech at the beginning of a general conference of the IAEA, at Vienna's International Center, in Vienna, Austria, on Monday, Sept. 14, 2009.

Associated Press

on developing nuclear arms.

At the same time, he confirmed the accuracy of the excerpts, including Khamenei's comments, as well as the IAEA assessment that Iran already had the expertise to make a nuclear bomb and was well-positioned to develop ways of equipping missiles with atomic warheads.

An official from one of the 150 IAEA member nations who showed the AP the older version of the document said much of the information in it has either never been published or, if so, in less direct language within ElBaradei's periodic Iran reports first circulated to the agency's board and released to the public. □

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A police officer stands in front of Carolinum school in Ansbach, Germany Thursday Sept. 17, 2009. Police say a 19-year-old armed with an ax has attacked a high school in southern Germany, wounding several students.

**BRIGITTE CASPARY**  
Associated Press Writer

ANSBACH, Germany (AP) — An 18-year-old armed with an ax, knives and Molotov cocktails attacked his high school in southern Germany, injuring eight pupils and a teacher before police shot and arrested him, authorities said. As the mayhem erupted Thursday on the third floor, roughly 700 other students fled the building, including some who barricaded a classroom door before running down an emergency staircase. Many took shelter in a nearby office building. The teenager entered the four-story school in Ansbach at 8:30 a.m. (0630GMT), shortly after classes started, Bavarian

Interior Minister Joachim Herrmann said.

He climbed to the third floor, where he lit a Molotov cocktail and threw it into an 11th grade classroom, apparently striking a girl in the head and burning several other people, authorities said.

He then attacked some nearby girls with the ax, inflicting serious skull wounds on one of them, said Udo Dreher, the top police officer at the scene. Dreher said it was not clear if the attacker, who had no police record, purposely selected his victims.

The teen, who was in his final year at the school, later lobbed another Molotov cocktail into a ninth-grade classroom directly across the hall, but it

# Teen wounds 8 students, teacher at German school

failed to ignite, Dreher said. A student who smelled smoke called police, pulled the fire alarm, and doused the flames, officials said.

Police searching the building were confronted by the teenager.

“The attacker was armed with an ax, several knives and another Molotov cocktail,” said Dreher. “As he moved toward the officers, they opened fire and then arrested him.”

The attacker was shot five times in the upper body during his arrest, which authorities said came 11 minutes after police were alerted. He remains in critical condition, officials said, though Dreher said his life was not in danger. Police did not identify him.

One teacher and six pupils suffered burns, police said, but none of their injuries was serious.

About 700 other pupils were able to evacuate the building, taking shelter in a nearby unemployment office where they were being treated by psychologists and counselors, officials said.

Jakob Breitzke, a 10th-grader,

told n-tv private television that students in his class heard screaming coming from the third floor and locked and barricaded their classroom door. He said someone rattled the door before moving on.

“Then we ran out down the emergency stairs and over to the unemployment office,” Breitzke said.

He described the attacker as a loner but someone who “was not a typical killer-(video-) games player. ... No one would have expected that he would go after people or plan an attack like this.”

School principal Frank Stark said the evacuation went smoothly after the fire alarm sounded, and many students thought it was only an exercise.

Prosecutors said they are investigating the teen on suspicion of attempted murder. Authorities said his motive was not immediately clear, and there was no indication that he had said anything during the attack.

Police spokeswoman Elke Schoenwald said a search of the 18-year-old’s room turned up documents that “suggest

a planned act.” She did not elaborate, saying that they are currently being evaluated.

“As horrible as an incident such as this is, it has shown that the school and police were well prepared for such a situation,” Herrmann said.

According to its Web site, Carolinum is the second-oldest public high school in Bavaria. It is located among winding cobbled streets, and offers a curriculum based on the humanities and music for grades five through 13.

The incident was the second attack on a school in Germany this year.

In March, 17-year-old Tim Kretschmer fatally shot 12 people at his former school in the southwestern town of Winnenden. He fled the building and killed three more people before turning the gun on himself.

That was the nation’s second-worst school shooting after a 2002 shooting spree in Erfurt that left 17 dead, including the gunman.

After Kretschmer’s attack in Winnenden, Germany moved to tighten checks on gun owners. □

## NOORDIN TOP

*Continued from Page B1*

Besides knocking out Southeast Asia’s most-wanted man, Thursday’s operation also netted a fugitive bombmaker believed to have designed explosives for twin suicide bombings at luxury hotels in Jakarta in July.

A cunning and charismatic figure, Noordin had eluded capture for more than seven years. He was tracked down at a house in the city of Solo in central Java, a breeding ground for militant Islam, where an overnight siege and hours-long gunfight ended at dawn with an explosion.

The bodies of four suspects were recovered from the burned-out house, including Noordin and an alleged explosives expert, Bagus Budi Pranato, believed to have manufactured the bombs used by suicide attackers in the July 17 attacks on the J.W. Marriott

and Ritz-Carlton hotels that killed seven and wounded more than 50.

Neighbors said the property was rented five months ago by a young couple who were teaching at a nearby Islamic school. The husband was among those killed in the firefight and his wife, who was pregnant, was wounded but was in stable condition at a hospital. The prime target was Noordin, a Malaysian citizen and feared regional leader of al-Qaida with links to Osama bin Laden, said national police chief Bambang Hendarso Danuri. Documents and laptop computers confiscated from the house prove that Noordin “is the leader of al-Qaida in Southeast Asia,” he said. Police also recovered hundreds of pounds of explosives, M-16 assault rifles, grenades and bombs. Noordin’s fingerprints, obtained from Malaysian authorities and stored on an

Indonesian police database, matched those of one of the bodies, Danuri said. DNA tests had not yet been conducted, and the bodies were flown to Jakarta for autopsies.

Indonesia had mounted one of the biggest manhunts in its history to try to capture Noordin, widely distributing his photo and offering a \$100,000 reward for information that led to his arrest. Yet he repeatedly managed to evade authorities, most recently in August when, after an all-night raid on a safe house, the police discovered they had killed the wrong man. Noordin had an extensive support network, from Islamic schools to sympathetic radical groups, that helped him slip across Indonesia’s vast island chain undetected, resettling and taking new wives as he recruited followers and plotted attacks. One of his wives was among those rounded up in the aftermath of the July hotel



Indonesian National Police Chief Gen. Bambang Hendarso Danuri shows the fingerprints taken from one of the bodies of the terror suspects killed in a police raid in Central Java, right, that match with those of Malaysian terror suspect Noordin Muhammed Top, lower left, during a press conference in Jakarta, Indonesia, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009. The regional terrorism mastermind who eluded capture for nine years and is blamed for a string of deadly attacks in Indonesia, was killed during a raid in central Indonesia, the police chief said Thursday.

*Associated Press*

bombings, though she told authorities she was unaware of her husband’s true identity. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono hailed Thursday’s operation, saying it had

removed a feared figure who “disturbed the life of this country, ruined our image in the international community and paralyzed the national economy.” □



# Witness: 11 dead in Somalia

## suicide car bombings

MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN  
Associated Press Writer

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)

— Islamist insurgents drove two stolen U.N. cars loaded with explosives onto the main base of African Union peacekeepers Thursday and triggered massive blasts that a witness said killed at least 11 people. Islamist insurgents said the attack was in revenge for a U.S. commando raid that killed an al-Qaida operative.

An hour later, an Associated Press reporter saw missiles fired from the AU base strike rebel-controlled areas of the capital, hitting several civilians. A young woman and a girl lay dead on the street, blood streaming from their wounds. Ali Muse of the Mogadishu ambulance service said the missiles killed seven people and wounded 16.

The bloodshed underscores the level of lawlessness and violence to which Somalia has fallen. After two decades of chaos, many fear this impoverished African nation is becoming a haven for al-Qaida, offering a place for terrorists to train and gather strength much like Afghanistan in the 1990s.

Al-Shabab, a powerful local Islamist insurgent group, claimed responsibility for the car bombings. The group had vowed to attack Western

interests after a raid Monday by helicopter-borne U.S. special forces that killed Saleh Ali Saleh Nabhan, an al-Qaida operative, in southern Somalia.

The U.S. and the U.N. both support Somalia's government and the African peacekeeping force. Al-Qaida and al-Shabab allegedly have links, though the local group denies this.

"I have counted the bodies of 11 people," one witness said after the car bombings, requesting anonymity for fear of reprisal. The AU, however, said nine people were killed: four suicide bombers and five officials from the government and AMISOM, the AU peacekeeping force, including the Burundian deputy commander of the force.

The African Medical and Research Foundation, which operates a flying doctors service, said the U.N. asked for help evacuating 15 critically injured people from the attacked base. Bob Kioko, a foundation spokesman, said it was sending four planes.

An airport security officer said the explosions were caused by two white Land Cruisers with United Nations logos.

"The soldiers at the gate assumed they were U.N. cars and opened the gate for them," the security official said, asking that his name

not be used because he is not authorized to speak to the media. "When the cars entered one of them sped toward a petrol depot and exploded. The other one exploded in a nearby area."

Somali Prime Minister Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke confirmed the bombers used stolen U.N. cars.

France condemned the attack and said it is considering using military means to reach and help the wounded, according to a statement from the French Foreign Ministry. Ministry spokesman Bernard Valero would not elaborate.

Suicide attacks — virtually unheard of in Somalia before 2007 — have increased in Somalia in recent years. Still, far more casualties are caused from gunbattles and mortar fire. There have been about a dozen suicide attacks since Islamic insurgents stepped up their attacks against the Western-backed backed government in 2007.

In a statement, the AU said it would remain "resolute in its commitment to support the Somali people." The peacekeeping force has long lamented that it is undermanned. Out of a planned 8,000 troops, there are about 5,000 troops from Uganda and Burundi.

Earlier Thursday, al-Shabab



**A woman injured during clashes between African peacekeepers backing Somali government forces and Islamist insurgents is helped by a relative as she is transported to a hospital, Mogadishu, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009. Islamist suicide bombers in explosives-laden cars with U.N. logos drove onto the main base of African Union peacekeepers Thursday and triggered two massive blasts that a witness reported killed at least 11 people, blew out windows and shrouded the sky in black smoke.**

*Associated Press*

issued conditions for the release of a French security agent being held hostage, demanding that France stop supporting Somalia's government and withdraw its warships from anti-piracy patrols. The French government immediately rejected the conditions.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner told France-Info radio that Paris' support for the embattled Somali government remains firm, noting he has twice met with Somali President Sheikh Sharif and his ministers, who "represent Somalia."

Al-Shabab also demanded that France exert pressure to force African Union peacekeepers out of the country and "release

all the prisoners of the holy warriors held in many areas, which we will reveal later."

The Frenchman, whose identity has not been released, was seized along with another agent July 14 in the capital, Mogadishu. The pair were in the country to train Somali government forces, which are fighting Islamist militiamen. The kidnappers separated the two men. The other agent escaped in August while his captors slept.

Al-Shabab vowed on Tuesday to retaliate against Western interests for Monday's U.S.-led commando raid in rural southern Somalia that left six dead, including Nabhan, one of the most-wanted al-Qaida operatives in the region. □

# U.S., Cuba talk about restarting direct mail service

PAUL HAVEN

Associated Press Writer

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba and the United States sat down for rare talks aimed at re-establishing direct mail service Thursday, a modest step toward cooperation that caps a bitter week of recriminations over the extension of Washington's trade embargo against the communist-run island.

The Cuban government said the two countries discussed technical obstacles to restart the service — suspended in 1963 — like how mail would be transported, methods of payment and postal security.

"We are satisfied with developments in this first meeting," said Josefina Vidal Ferreiro, director of the Foreign Ministry's North American Department, who led Cuba's delegation. She described the talks as "wide-ranging and useful."

The government said both sides agreed on the need to hold more discussions in coming months, but did not give any details on where or when such talks would be held.

The U.S. delegation was led by Bisa Williams, the deputy assistant secretary of state for Western Hemisphere affairs. It was the first time State Department officials have traveled to Cuba for talks since late 2002, Gloria Berbena, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Interests Section, which Washington maintains here instead of an embassy, told The Associated Press. Representatives of the U.S. and Cuban postal services were also present.

Direct mail service between the United States and Cuba was suspended in August 1963, the year after Washington imposed its embargo. Letters sent currently between the two nations will arrive — eventually, and with a bit of luck — but must pass through a third country first.

The U.S. first suggested restarting direct service back in 1999, then repeated the offer in 2000, 2002 and 2008. Cuba accepted in May, and formalized its offer to host the talks when representatives of the two nations met on the sidelines of bilateral migration talks held in New York in July.

Berbena said the talks would take all day and be

limited to mail service. She said President Barack Obama's administration sees the negotiations "as a potential avenue to improve communication between our countries' peoples."

Those were rare positive sentiments in a week of snubs that have dimmed hopes for a comprehensive breakthrough in relations anytime soon.

On Monday, Obama signed a measure formally extending the 47-year-old embargo for one year. The move was symbolic, since it would take an act of Congress to legally end the sanctions.

But some had hoped the president would withhold his signature — which would have been a powerful sign that it was time for a new debate on bilateral relations.

Two days later, Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez demanded that Washington do away with the embargo without waiting for anything in return, saying his country would not make any political or policy concessions — no matter how small — even in the unlikely event the U.S. were to meet those demands and end sanctions. □



# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



In this June 28, 2009, file photo, NCAA president Myles Brand speaks after receiving a Pathfinder Award in Indianapolis. The NCAA says Brand has died after battling pancreatic cancer. He was 67. The university president turned NCAA chief who pushed for tighter academic standards in college sports and took on Bob Knight died Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2009.

*Associated Press*

## NCAA president Myles Brand dies from cancer at 67

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Firing Bob Knight gave Myles Brand the pulpit to critique college athletics.

Eventually, it helped him change the NCAA, too.

Brand, the first university president to lead college sports' largest governing body, died Wednesday at his Indianapolis home after a lengthy battle against pancreatic cancer. He was 67. It is the first time the NCAA's chief executive has died in office.

"Myles brought his academic experience in philosophy and higher education to the NCAA and effectively challenged the athletics community to demonstrate accountability for the educational values we espouse," NCAA vice president David Berst said.

Whether it was Brand's push for diversity in the college coaching ranks, the desire to put academic progress and graduation rates ahead of wins and losses or his tough stance on the hotheaded and once untouchable Knight, Brand never backed away from challenging the status quo. □

## NBA refs: Lockout appears 'imminent'

BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The lead negotiator and spokesman for the NBA's referees union said a lockout appears "imminent and unavoidable" following the latest breakdown in talks on Thursday.

Lamell McMorris said the officials made another \$1 million in concessions in their proposal, but believes it's evident the league is not interested in further discussions. The officials then headed home after spending the last 24 hours meeting in Chicago.

"It's become evident that the league would not be interested in continuing conversation at this time," McMorris said.

The NBA had a similarly pessimistic view.

"I'm not going to handicap it, other than to say there's always time to make an agreement if the parties want to do that," NBA general counsel and lead negotiator Rick Buchanan said. "I'm not optimistic based on what

### WNBA Playoffs

## Shock past Dream 94-89 in opener

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan (AP) — Deanna Nolan scored 25 points and Kara Braxton added 16 as the Detroit Shock rallied for a 94-89 victory over the Atlanta Dream in the opener of the WNBA Eastern Conference first-round playoffs on Wednesday.

The defending champions trailed by 13 points midway through the third quarter, but dominated the final 15 minutes to take a 1-0 lead in the best-of-three series.

Iziane Castro Marques led Atlanta with 25 points and Angel McCoughtry added 21.

Sparks 70, Storm 63

At Los Angeles, Tina Thompson hit a key 3-pointer with 5:44 remaining as the Sparks beat the Storm in Game 1 of their Western Conference



In this Dec. 25, 2008, photo, referee Luis Grillo, center, talks with Cleveland Cavaliers' Mo Williams, left, and LeBron James during a timeout in an NBA basketball game against the Washington Wizards in Cleveland. Lamell McMorris, the lead negotiator and spokesman for the NBA's referees union, says a lockout appears "imminent and unavoidable" following the latest breakdown in talks, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009.

*Associated Press*

happened today. We'll just have to see what happens."

The contract between the NBA and its officials expired on Sept. 1 and the sides have been trying to reach a new two-year deal. McMorris said they largely agree on salaries, but the union has balked at

the league's attempt to change retirement benefits.

Besides the severance and pension disagreements, the officials are resisting a league development plan for young officials. Without a new deal, replacement officials will be used when preseason play

opens on Oct. 1. The NBA last began a season without its regular referees in 1995-96, when the caliber of officiating was roundly criticized.

"We're prepared to be locked out by the NBA but also remain open to ongoing dialogue," McMorris said, adding that negotiations have been difficult because the league "has made pretty clear they have a goal they are trying to achieve as it relates to these long-term benefits."

All 57 active referees arrived in Chicago on Wednesday, meeting for more than seven hours and unanimously rejecting a proposal the league made earlier that day. McMorris said the officials reconvened early Thursday to finalize the counterproposal they made to the league.

McMorris previously said the officials, sensitive to the financial difficulties the league is facing, agreed to \$2.5 million in concessions, but the league sought further cuts in areas such as the travel budget and per diems. □



Detroit Shock's Deanna Nolan, center, gets through the defense of Atlanta Dream's Iziane Castro Marques (8) and teammate Ivory Latta during the second half of their WNBA playoff basketball game on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2009, in Auburn Hills, Mich. The Shock won 94-89.

*Associated Press*



AL Roundup

# Red Sox notch dramatic win over Angels, 9-8

BOSTON (AP) — Boston's Alex Gonzalez hit a bases-loaded blooper down the left-field line with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to give the Red Sox a 9-8 win over the Los Angeles Angels in the American League on Wednesday.

The Red Sox trailed 3-0 and 7-5 before tying the game in the bottom of the eighth. The Angels took the lead in the top of the ninth on three straight two-out singles against Boston pitcher Daniel Bard. But L.A. closer Brian Fuentes coughed up the lead in the bottom half. The Red Sox have won seven straight, and 10 in a row at Fenway Park to take a firm hold on the wild card berth. With only 18 games to play, they lead out-of-form Texas by 6-1/2 games.

The Angels maintained a six-game lead over the Rangers in the AL West.

## Yankees 5, Blue Jays 4

In New York, Hideki Matsui hit a tying, two-run homer in the eighth inning to help lift New York over Toronto. Francisco then hit the winning single in the ninth as the Blue Jays and Yankees made it through nine innings calmly after their wild brawl the previous day.

New York was held to four hits through seven innings, then tied it on Matsui's 25th homer of the season, off pitcher Scott Downs.

## Athletics 4, Rangers 0

In Arlington, Texas, pitcher Trevor Cahill combined with two relievers on a one-hit shutout as Oakland beat Texas.

The Athletics, last in the AL

West, completed their first three-game series sweep in more than three months.

Cahill had a career-best seven strikeouts and walked just two in seven innings, limiting Texas to a bloop single in the second. Relievers Michael Wuertz and Andrew Bailey each worked a perfect inning to close out Oakland's ninth shutout of the season.

## Mariners 4, White Sox 1

In Seattle, Ryan Rowland-Smith pitched eight innings to steer Seattle past Chicago.

Rowland-Smith allowed nine hits but was able to work out of trouble to keep the White Sox at bay.

Closer David Aardsma worked the ninth for his 35th save of the season.

## Tigers 4, Royals 3

In Detroit, Placido Polanco hit a go-ahead RBI single in the sixth inning to lift Detroit over Kansas City.

Pitcher Zach Miner and

three other relievers kept the Royals scoreless over the final five innings to help the Tigers stay 4-1/2 games ahead of Minnesota in the AL Central. Detroit is chasing its first division title since 1987.

## Twins 7, Indians 3

In Minneapolis, Michael Cuddyer homered, doubled and drove in three runs for Minnesota which completed a three-game sweep of Cleveland.

Joe Mauer singled twice, raising his major league-leading batting average to .374, and drove in two runs as the Twins won their fourth straight.

Matt LaPorta homered and had three RBIs for Cleveland, which has lost four straight.

## Orioles 4, Rays 2

In Baltimore, rookie Matt Wieters hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth for Baltimore, beating Tampa Bay.



Boston Red Sox's Alex Gonzalez follows through on a single that drove in the winning run for a 9-8 Boston victory against the Los Angeles Angels in the ninth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2009.

Associated Press

The Rays went up 2-1 in the top half when Ben Zobrist hit a 3-2 pitch from Jim Johnson over the center-field wall. It was the fifth blown save for Johnson.

But in the bottom half, Luke Scott drew a leadoff walk from Russ Springer and Wieters hit his seventh

homer.

In other AL games it was, **Minnesota 7, Cleveland 3; Detroit 4, Kansas City 3; Baltimore 4, Tampa Bay 2; N.Y. Yankees 5, Toronto 4; Boston 9, L.A. Angels 8; Oakland 4, Texas 0; and Seattle 4, Chicago White Sox 1.** □

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ST. LOUIS (AP) — The Florida Marlins kept up their bid to snatch the National League wild card berth by beating the St. Louis Cardinals 5-2 on Wednesday. Pitcher Josh Johnson gave up just one run over six innings to set up a win that kept Florida within 4-1/2 games of wild card-holding Colorado with 16 games to play. Cody Ross had three hits and drove in two runs for

the Marlins. **Rockies 4, Giants 3** In San Francisco, Colorado tightened its grip on the wild card by edging divisional rival San Francisco. Jorge De La Rosa pitched eight scoreless innings to win his sixth straight start against San Francisco and help boost the Rockies lead over the Giants to 3-1/2 games. Troy Tulowitzki homered to help Colorado avoid a three-game sweep in the

## NL Roundup

# Marlins beat Cards, maintain playoff push

key series.

### Brewers 9, Cubs 5

In Chicago, Braden Loeper pitched five innings for his career-high 13th win, guiding Milwaukee past Chicago.

Loeper, who won 12 games in each of the two previous seasons with St. Louis, won despite giving up a two-run homer to Aramis Ramirez. Alcides Escobar went 4 for 5 with three RBIs for Milwaukee.

### Dodgers 3, Pirates 1

In Los Angeles, Matt Kemp hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the sixth inning as Los Angeles defeated Pittsburgh.

Ronnie Belliard added a solo shot as Los Angeles completed a three-game sweep and maintained a five-game lead in the NL West.

Kemp smashed an 0-2 pitch from Kevin Hart for his 24th homer of the season, giving

the Dodgers a 2-1 lead en route to their 38th comeback win of the season.

### Braves 6, Mets 5

In Atlanta, the hosts took advantage of first baseman Daniel Murphy's error to score two runs in the bottom of the ninth and notch their season-best sixth straight win.

With the game tied and runners on first and second with two outs, Atlanta's Ryan Church hit a grounder toward first. Murphy couldn't cleanly field it, allowing David Ross time to score the winning run from second.

Mets closer Francisco Rodriguez gave up one hit in the ninth but couldn't hold a 5-4 lead. It was his sixth blown save in 37 chances. The Braves remain within 5 games of the wild card spot.

In Cincinnati, Joey Votto scored the go-ahead run on

a wild pitch in the seventh inning as Cincinnati edged Houston.

In a game that featured seven solo homers in the first five innings, Votto led off the seventh with an infield single and was advanced to third. The Astros changed pitcher and catcher, and a bouncing wild pitch ensued, allowing Votto to cross for the winning run.

Jeff Keppinger had two of Houston's five solo homers — his first multi-homer game — but the Astros lost their fourth straight.

### Phillies 6, Nationals 1

In Philadelphia, Joe Blanton pitched six scoreless innings to direct Philadelphia's win over Washington.

The Phillies were one out away from recording three consecutive shutouts for the first time in 40 years when Tyler Walker allowed a run-scoring single.

Jayson Werth hit a grand slam for NL-East leading Philadelphia.

Padres 6, Diamondbacks 5, 10 innings

In San Diego, Everth Cabrera's RBI single in the bottom of 10th gave San Diego the victory over Arizona.

Cabrera's third hit of the game was a grounder into right.

Luis Durango, making his first career start, opened the 10th with his third infield single, the others on bunts.

In other NL games it was, Florida 5, St. Louis 2; L.A. Dodgers 3, Pittsburgh 1; San Diego 6, Arizona 5, 10 innings; Philadelphia 6, Washington 1; Cincinnati 6, Houston 5; Atlanta 6, N.Y. Mets 5; Milwaukee 9, Chicago Cubs 5; and Colorado 4, San Francisco 3. □

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Candidato Santos:

# Honduras, al borde de guerra civil

TEGUCIGALPA (AP) - El candidato presidencial del partido que encabeza el gobierno de facto, Elvin Santos, denunció al mandatario depuesto Manuel Zelaya de amenazarlo de muerte y poner a Honduras al borde de una guerra civil por intentar retornar al poder.

En tanto, el presidente de facto Roberto Micheletti dijo que el presidente costarricense Oscar Arias ha dejado de ser un mediador adecuado en la búsqueda de una solución para la situación en Honduras, y lo calificó de "títere".

"No tengo una varita mágica para hacer que Zelaya regrese al país (de Nicaragua, donde está refugiado) pero sí puedo trabajar en buscar una salida a la crisis de Honduras", afirmó el miércoles el candidato del Partido Liberal.

"Hago responsable de mi vida al señor Zelaya, que nos ha amenazado (de muerte). El derrocado presidente ataca a su partido (Liberal) y lo quiere destruir con la impunidad que le da la comunidad internacional, que lo protege", dijo Santos a la cadena local de radio HRN. No especificó cómo y cuándo Zelaya consumó su amenaza. Los militares derrocaron a Zelaya el 28 de junio y lo enviaron al exilio a Costa Rica por intentar convocar a una asamblea constituyente. El Congreso lo sustituyó por el también liberal Micheletti, que presidía la legislatura.

"Es necesario hablar con la verdad: Zelaya divide y polariza a la sociedad y, al hablar con un doble discurso, engaña al pueblo", afirmó Santos. Señaló que "Honduras no puede estar al borde de una guerra civil (por la actitud de Zelaya)... y eso lo debe comprender la comunidad internacional, que no conoce lo que ocurre en nuestra nación".

Pero Beatriz Valle, vicescanciller en la administración de Zelaya, aseguró a periodistas que "el presidente rechaza la

afirmación de Santos porque se trata de una calumnia... y si hace una denuncia, Santos debe mostrar las pruebas. En caso contrario, él quedará como un mentiroso".

Washington retiró la semana pasada su ayuda no humanitaria a Honduras, revocó las visas de numerosos funcionarios y empresarios que apoyan al régimen de facto y amenazó con recrudecer sus presiones en caso que Micheletti no halle una rápida salida democrática.

El Consejo de Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas prohibió el martes la participación del representante del gobierno de facto hondureño Delmer Urbizo en su reunión en Ginebra después de las protestas de algunos países latinoamericanos.

Micheletti dijo a la cadena Radio América que el presidente costarricense Oscar Arias "dejó de ser un correcto mediador en la crisis de Honduras" por no aceptar las elecciones generales de noviembre.

"No solamente ha sido su actitud (de Arias), sino que él aparece un día diciendo que Honduras va y debe ir a las elecciones, y al otro día dice que no. Es como el títere que manipulan quienes les interesa este desarreglo o arreglo de la situación hondureña", subrayó.

Micheletti expresó sin embargo que su régimen respalda el diálogo auspiciado por Arias "siempre y cuando (sus resoluciones) estén enmarcadas dentro de la Constitución de Honduras".

Cuatro candidatos presidenciales hondureños se reunieron el miércoles en San José con Arias y respaldaron el Acuerdo de San José, que busca una salida negociada al conflicto, pero pidieron a la comunidad internacional respetar los próximos comicios. Algunos países han anunciado que desconocerán al presidente que surja de los comicios previstos para el 29 de noviembre. □



Una mujer muestra una bandera del Partido Liberal, durante una protesta en apoyo al presidente derrocado de Honduras, Manuel Zelaya, el miércoles 16 de septiembre del 2009, en Tegucigalpa (AP foto/Esteban Félix)

## Colombia ratifica voluntad de normalizar relación con Ecuador

BOGOTÁ (AP) - Colombia tiene la voluntad de avanzar hacia la normalización de las relaciones con Ecuador, rotas desde hace más de un año, pero no desea generar "falsas expectativas" sobre eventuales resultados de una venidera reunión entre los cancilleres de ambos países.

El canciller Jaime Bermúdez afirmó que "hay toda la voluntad de avanzar y normalizar las relaciones, pero tampoco podemos generar falsas expectativas".

"Hay que avanzar en la medida de lo posible y tenemos todo el interés de hacerlo y... vamos abordar todos los temas que hacen parte de la relación bilateral", agregó Bermúdez al hablar con reporteros el miércoles por la noche en el aeropuerto militar en Bogotá, donde llegó tras visitar la víspera una zona de frontera con Ecuador. El ministro ratificó su encuentro el

22 de septiembre en Nueva York, en el marco de la asamblea anual de las Naciones Unidas, con el canciller de Ecuador, Fander Falconí. Sin embargo, declinó especificar qué temas llevará Bogotá a la mesa de ese encuentro.

"No considero oportuno y prudente hacer comentarios públicos sobre los temas que Colombia considera, como tampoco creo que se deben ventilar los de Ecuador, para precisamente avanzar de manera prudente y discreta" hacia la reanudación formal de lazos entre los dos países, indicó el canciller.

Quito rompió relaciones con Colombia el 3 de marzo del 2008 en protesta por un ataque militar colombiano realizado dos días antes a un campamento de las guerrillas Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) en Ecuador, en una zona cercana a la frontera. □

## Cuba y EE.UU negocian reinicio de correo directo

LA HABANA (AP) - Cuba y Estados Unidos iniciaron el jueves conversaciones para restablecer servicio directo de correo, un paso modesto, pero positivo que corona una semana de amargas recriminaciones por la extensión del embargo comercial de Washington a la isla. Una delegación encabezada por Bisa Williams, subsecretaria de estado adjunta para el Hemisferio Occidental, viajó a La Habana

para las negociaciones. Fue la primera vez que funcionarios del Departamento de Estado viajan a Cuba para conversaciones desde finales del 2002, dijo Gloria Berbena, portavoz de la Oficina de Intereses de Estados Unidos en La Habana. Representantes del servicio postal estadounidense estaban presentes. El gobierno cubano no hizo declaraciones de inmediato, ni confirmó si se realizaban las conversaciones. □



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